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WEEKLY REVIEW

# THE JERUSALEM POST

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## Barak to return from China to answer charges

ALON PINKAS, EVELYN GORDON, DAVID MAKOVSKY and SARAH HONIG

FORMER chief of staff Ehud Barak is expected to return early this week from a business trip to China in order to answer new allegations regarding his involvement in the 1992 Tze'elim-2 accident.

Barak was accused in a Friday *Yediot Aharonot* story of immediately leaving the site of the training mishap - in which five soldiers were killed and six wounded by an erroneously fired missile - and that he did not take some of the wounded with him in his helicopter (see box).

The Movement for Quality Government in Israel asked the government yesterday to set up a state commission of inquiry into the accident.

The movement also asked Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair to investigate possible criminal activity by senior army officers involved in the affair, and asked both Ben-Yair and Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin not to appoint any of the officers involved to any new military or civilian posts.

Rabin said he opposes the establishment of an inquiry commission.

Speaking on Channel 1 last night, Rabin said, "The whole Tze'elim-2 affair has been investigated by a variety of authorities, and I see no reason to question the findings."

Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak said last night that he was on the helicopter that flew Barak from the scene after the accident. Shahak said Barak's helicopter left only after helicopters carrying medical teams had arrived and the injured were being treated.

Shahak told Channel 1 that Barak's helicopter was not in the area at the time of the tragedy. "Barak left the scene only after all the wounded were treated. The rescue helicopters were already

## 2 Katyusha attacks hit Galilee

DAVID RUDGE

RESIDENTS of towns and villages along the Lebanese border prepared to sleep in bomb shelters and security rooms again last night after two salvos of Katyusha rockets struck the Galilee yesterday.

There were no casualties in the attacks, although fires broke out in two places and some minor damage was reported.

Hizbullah claimed responsibility for firing the rockets. The extremist Shi'ite organization said it was in retaliation for IDF tank fire on Saturday at a house on the outskirts of Nabatiya, north of the zone, in which two girls were killed and five other people were wounded. Hizbullah described the shelling as the "Nabatiya massacre."

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin criticized the IDF in yesterday's cabinet meeting for the shelling of the residential area of Nabatiya, sources said.

"It was superfluous," participants cited Rabin as telling the cabinet.

Reports from Lebanon, quoting Lebanese army sources, said the tank rounds were "Flechette" shells containing dozens of nails. Such shells, said the reports, are banned under terms of the Geneva Convention.

Residents of the Galilee panhandle spent Saturday night in bomb shelters and security rooms on the instructions of the IDF, which feared a retaliatory rocket attack.

Saturday night passed quietly and the all-clear was sounded yesterday morning. Shops and businesses opened as usual but some kindergarten summer schools remained closed.

Residents were again instructed to go into bomb shelters and security rooms around 5 p.m. yesterday, on the assumption that Katyusha rocket attacks were likely to occur following the funerals of the two Lebanese girls. Some 30 minutes later the first salvo of rockets hit the Western Galilee.

Some of the rockets fell on open land close to a farming settlement. The exploding rockets set fire to brush but firemen were able to contain the blaze.

"I was working on my computer when shortly after 5 p.m. there were explosions, after which the power went off," said Moshe Sela.

"They fell near the banana plantations and in nearby wadis, about 200 meters from my house."



A woman and her baby leave a bomb shelter in a Galilee town yesterday morning after an alert forced them to spend Saturday night there. (Avihu Shapira/Israel Sun)

outside working in their fields, even though the alert had been sounded. Sela said it had been fortunate that the rockets had fallen where they did.

"The pattern of events has taught us that if we hit civilians, they respond and this has become fixed. We are aware of what is likely to happen, and there were enough people here after what happened [in Nabatiya] who said we have to prepare for [a response] on Saturday. In the end, they used their initiative and did it in their own time," he said.

Other residents, however, charged that their lives were being disrupted by the attacks and that tourism in the region had been badly affected.

A number of rockets fell in the Galilee panhandle causing brush fires, but no extensive damage or casualties. Some residents there charged that they were fed up with what had become an all-to-prevalent routine of rocket attacks.

"Every time there's something in Lebanon, we have to go into the bomb shelters," said a resident of Kiryat Shmuna. "It's getting to be too much. We are becoming hostages to what's happening over the border."

The all-clear was sounded after the attacks, but many residents said they would remain in security rooms and bomb shelters overnight, as a precaution.

IDF and South Lebanese Army gunners blasted suspected Hizbullah targets north of the zone in response to the latest rocket attacks. Reports from Lebanon said a civilian was wounded in the shelling.

The reports said IAF warplanes and helicopters also flew sorties over parts of south Lebanon, apparently in an effort to spot the sites from which the Katyusha rockets were launched.

News agencies reported that in a separate incident a Lebanese fisherman was wounded by Israeli navy gunboat fire off the coast from Tyre. The reports said two other fishermen were picked up and detained by a patrol boat.

Meanwhile, according to reports from Lebanon, Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah has been re-elected leader of Hizbullah, over his more radical rival Sheikh Subhi Tufileh.

### Details of controversial report

EVELYN GORDON

WHEN the Tze'elim-2 training accident occurred, former chief of general staff Ehud Barak, to conceal his presence at the site, took off in his private helicopter rather than helping to treat the wounded, according to the investigative report of the accident published in Friday's *Yediot Aharonot*.

According to the *Yediot* report: Barak not only refused to stay and help treat the wounded; he refused to evacuate any of the critically wounded in his helicopter. This may have led to the death of at least one soldier, Eran Wechselsbaum, who was still alive 20 minutes after being hit, the report noted.

Both Barak and OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Amiram Levine, who was then a corps commander, changed their stories completely during the course of the investigation into the accident, in order to protect Levine.

Judge Advocate-General Brig.-Gen. Ilan Schiff, who received both reports, was aware of the contradiction between them, *Yediot* added, but did nothing about it.

Soldiers from the Sayeret Matkal unit that conducted the exercise were instructed to conceal information from the Eitan Committee, and were even ordered to give the ground where the accident occurred a thorough sweeping so the committee could learn nothing by examining it.

### Ross here in bid to step up military talks

DAVID MAKOVSKY

US Special Middle East Coordinator Dennis Ross arrives today in a bid to have Israeli and Syrian leaders get actively involved in the military talks later this month, which will include negotiations on different types of aerial early warning systems needed to protect against surprise attacks via the Golan Heights.

Ross wants the continued personal involvement of both Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Syrian President Hafez Assad in the military talks, fearing that otherwise the Washington-based talks will stagnate.

The visit is also designed to prepare the groundwork for the resumption of non-military talks headed by both countries' ambassadors in the US, Itamar Rabinovich and Walid Mualem. These talks are to focus on the extent of Golan withdrawal, the character of normalization and the timetable of phasing them in together.

The Syrian media has not contradicted the "10 to 6" ratio publicized in Jerusalem after the chiefs of staff talks, whereby for every 10 kilometers of Syrian demilitarization and limited-zone areas combined, Israel will demilitarize and reduce forces over a six-kilometer area.

In contrast to the past, when the Syrian commentators insisted on strict "symmetry" or "equality" as the basis of security arrangements, sources say Radio Damascus has shifted and now speaks of a more flexible "equitable and even" security terms.

On the Palestinian front, it appears that Foreign Ministry Director-General Uri Savir and Palestinian negotiator Ahmed Oreia will decide today on relocating their peace talks to Italy later this week. Sources suggested the talks will be held in Florence.

These talks, which officials said will involve about 50 people on each side, will encompass all the different sets of negotiations - military responsibilities, civilian issues and Palestinian elections.

### Agency rep in Mexico City found strangled to death

BATSHEVA TSUR

JEWISH Agency emissary Shlomo Biran was found strangled to death with a rope yesterday morning in his Mexico City apartment.

The Mexican police, who launched an investigation, said they believe Biran was robbed and murdered, as a number of articles appeared to be missing from the apartment.

Biran was due to arrive home on Saturday night for a vacation following a year's tour of duty. When his flight landed without him, his wife contacted the agency and another emissary was sent to Biran's apartment. The emissary noted a strong odor emanating from the apartment and called the police.

They found Biran's body bound with rope alongside his packed suitcases. The apartment was in a state of disarray.

Biran, 59, of Ramat Hasharon, was an emissary of the agency's Education and Culture Department for the Diaspora. He began teaching music at the Magen David school, where some 1,200 Jewish children study. His wife and three grown children remained here.

Jewish Agency Chairman Avraham Burg said yesterday he would refrain from commenting until the police investigation was over and Biran's body was brought home for burial.

There are some 35,000 Jews living in Mexico, with the largest community in Mexico City.

Aliya from Mexico has totaled fewer than 100 people annually in the past few years.

### Weizman to visit Sachsenhausen; camp to remain a memorial site

BATSHEVA TSUR and MICHAEL YUDELMAN

PRESIDENT Ezer Weizman will visit the Sachsenhausen concentration camp outside Berlin in the company of German President Roman Herzog on September 9, and there appear to be no plans to close down the site, Ambassador to Bonn Avi Primor said yesterday.

MK Dan Tichon, head of the Knesset's Israel-German Society, said Saturday he had protested to the German authorities over reports the site would be closed. But sources said there was nothing new in the reports, and residents of the town have for many years been pressing to turn the camp site into a resort area.

Primor noted in a message to the Foreign Ministry yesterday that no one, including the members of Berlin's Jewish community, had heard of any intention to shut the memorial site.

Dr. Gunter Morsch, director of the Sachsenhausen memorial, told a visiting delegation of Israel

### Shohat: Spending cuts, tax increases possible

JOSE ROSENFELD

DESPITE impending elections, Finance Minister Avraham Shohat yesterday did not rule out the possibility of spending cuts, tax increases or a combination of both in next year's budget.

"I hope we will be able to lower the budget deficit without imposing decrees on the people," Shohat said after the first cabinet meeting on the 1996 budget.

Both Shohat and Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel agreed on the need to reduce next year's budget deficit to help alleviate the growing balance of payments gap, but avoided proposing the means.

Despite Shohat's uncertainty about the possibility of additional tax cuts next year, he clarified that the tax cuts the Knesset already approved for September will go into effect as planned.

Asked if it would be realistic to expect he will pull off deficit reduction measures in an election year budget, Shohat admitted that the government will face difficult decisions.

Full story, Page 8

### THE MEMBERS of MOSHAV SHORESH

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The Jerusalem WEATHER

Forecast: End of heatwave. Temperatures to drop. Shabbat: No change in trend. Partly cloudy, 18-28.

AROUND THE WORLD

AMSTERDAM: 18-22. BANGKOK: 28-35. BEIRUT: 22-30. BOMBAY: 28-35. BRISBANE: 18-25. CANNES: 22-28. CAIRO: 28-35. CHICAGO: 18-25. COLOMBO: 28-35. DUBLIN: 12-18. HONG KONG: 28-35. JERUSALEM: 22-30. LONDON: 12-18. MADRID: 22-28. MANILA: 28-35. MEXICO CITY: 22-28. MOSCOW: 12-18. NEW YORK: 18-25. OSAKA: 22-28. PARIS: 18-25. ROME: 22-28. SAO PAULO: 22-28. SEATTLE: 12-18. SINGAPORE: 28-35. SYDNEY: 18-25. TAIPEI: 28-35. TEL-AVIV: 22-30. TOKYO: 22-28. WASHINGTON: 18-25. YOKOHAMA: 22-28.

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To Charles, Edgar and all the Bronfman Family  
Our condolences on the passing of  
**SAIDYE ROSNER BRONFMAN** ז"ל

The Management and Staff of The Jerusalem Post

The Jerusalem Foundation  
sends condolences to the Bronfman family  
on the passing of  
their mother  
**SAIDYE ROSNER  
BRONFMAN**

To Charles, Edgar and all the Bronfman Family  
We express our sorrow on the passing of  
**SAIDYE ROSNER BRONFMAN, O.B.E.**

Seagram Israel

The Jewish Agency for Israel The World Zionist Organization  
extend their sympathies to Edgar and Charles Bronfman  
and families on the passing of  
**SAIDYE BRONFMAN** ז"ל  
May her memory be for a blessing.  
Avraham Burg Chairman JAFI/WZO Executives  
Charles Goodman Chairman JAFI Board of Governors

Our deepest sympathies to  
Charles R. and Edgar M. Bronfman  
on the death of their mother  
**SAIDYE ROSNER BRONFMAN, O.B.E.**  
The Management and Staff of  
the Jerusalem Report

To Charles, Edgar and Phyllis  
and all beloved grandchildren and great-grandchildren  
Deeply saddened by the passing of  
**SAIDYE ROSNER BRONFMAN, O.B.E.**  
Claridge Israel Inc.

To Edgar and Charles Bronfman  
Mourning with you and the entire family  
the death of your beloved mother  
**SAIDYE ROSNER BRONFMAN**

Joseph Ciechanover  
The Challenge Fund - Etgar

To Charles, Edgar and Phyllis  
and all beloved grandchildren and great-grandchildren  
Saddened by the passing of  
**SAIDYE ROSNER BRONFMAN, O.B.E.**  
CRB Foundation  
Jerusalem

United Israel Appeal of Canada  
המגבית המאוחדת לישראל בקנדה איג  
its Officers and Staff  
are deeply saddened by the passing of  
**SAIDYE BRONFMAN** ז"ל  
and extend heartfelt condolences to  
Charles, Edgar, Phyllis and family  
Gerald Halbert President  
Steven Ain Executive Vice President  
Max Blankstein Chairman, IRC  
Dr. Amnon Shinar Director General

TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY  
extends sympathy and sincere condolences  
on the passing of their dear mother  
**SAIDYE BRONFMAN**  
to  
Charles Bronfman, Edgar Bronfman  
and Phyllis Lambert

To Charles, Edgar and Phyllis  
and all beloved grandchildren and great-grandchildren  
We mourn the passing of  
**SAIDYE ROSNER BRONFMAN, O.B.E.**  
whose death marks the end of an era.

Janet Aviad and Menachem Brinker  
Danny and Gina Biran  
Jack and Mina Brin  
Barry Chazan  
Jonathan and Irit Kolber  
Araleh and Nogah Lebenat

הקדמה מן האל

our Hebrew  
interferes  
with work  
of some  
immigrant  
doctors

High Court ask  
to justify its

DESERT TO  
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GEOGRAPHICAL TOURS • N



## Poor Hebrew interferes with work of some immigrant doctors

JUDY SIEGEL

THE first-ever study of the Hebrew-language abilities of immigrant physicians from the former Soviet Union found that their comprehension of medical terms is "extremely low and liable to impair their daily professional functioning."

The Tel Aviv University researchers - Neva Notzer, Leora Weinbach and Edna Landau - noted that the practice of medicine is highly dependent on the ability of doctors and patients to understand one another, as well as doctors' ability to communicate with their superiors and to comprehend medical literature.

The study was published in the latest issue of *Harefuah*, the journal of the Israel Medical Association.

Although new immigrant doctors receive a free, six-month Hebrew uplan, a two-week course in medical terms, and can take preparatory courses in Russian for the medical licensing exam, no Hebrew-language test is required for licensing. The licensing exam is given in a doctor's native tongue if he or she chooses not to be tested in Hebrew.

Health Minister Dr. Ephraim Sneh - who had not read the *Harefuah* article - said he did not accept the conclusions of the researchers, saying the professional level of the preparatory courses taken by Russian immigrant doctors is "very high - and equal to that of graduates of Israeli medical schools." He said he does not favor setting a Hebrew proficiency requirement for immigrant physicians.

Prof. Joseph Schenker, chairman of the Israel Medical Association's exams committee, which supervises the licensing examinations, said he had read the article and had long been aware of the problem.

"A country like ours has to take difficulties with the language into consideration," Schenker said. "We have closed our eyes to various needs and to Hebrew proficiency as well. I admit there is some risk."

The researchers examined 67 Russian-speaking immigrant doctors who completed Hebrew- and Russian-language courses in preparation for the licensing exam. The immigrants, who had been in the country for five to 18 months, worked in one of two hospitals.

The general Hebrew-language test was similar to that given to university candidates who lack a matriculation certificate, while the 90-minute test on basic Hebrew medical terms was specially prepared to include those dealing with anatomy, patient's complaints, doctors' questions and instructions.

The researchers found that the general Hebrew-language level of 29 doctors was poor, and 28 had a low level of medical terms in Hebrew.



The boat that recreated the voyage of the Exodus in 1947 for some 1,400 youths from Europe and the US docks here yesterday after four days at sea. During the voyage, youths acted out clashes with the 'British' and tried to identify 'British agents' planted on board. (Sammy Avnion)

## Liba'i wants freedom of information law

JACOB DALLAL

JUSTICE Minister David Liba'i announced that will he ask the government to introduce a freedom of information bill, after receiving the recommendations of a public committee, which presented him with a draft of such a bill yesterday.

The measure would give the public the legal right to access to information held by government bodies, which today is only released at the discretion of these bodies.

Liba'i, who appointed the committee in May of last year, agreed with its conclusion that anchoring the public's 'right to know' in law would strengthen democracy and put Israel on a par with other Western countries.

"This is one of the most important issues in a democratic society," Liba'i said.

A freedom of information law would also change the prevailing attitude among government agencies, which now see themselves as guardians of public information.

"This is an educational task of the first order," said Civil Service Commissioner Yitzhak Galnoor, a member of the committee. "When I come to a clerk, I don't have to give a reason [why I want information]; I am exercising my right as a citizen to know."

"It means re-educating the government authorities," said committee member Malchiel Blass, a lawyer with the State's Attorney's Office. "Their attitude is 'I am the one that holds the information, so I am the one with the power.'"

Blass illustrates the present situation.

"Do you know how difficult it is today if you wanted to find out, say, about school regulations from a municipality? Today the individual has to prove why he is entitled to the information. This legislation would turn this situation upside down - the authority would have to prove why it can't release the information."

The proposed legislation would not give the public the right to access sensitive material, excluding such bodies as the IDF Intelligence Branch and the police investigations unit from the disclosure requirements.

The difficulty with the legislation is that it is likely to be expensive, Liba'i said.

"It seems that every office would have to establish a unit for giving out information [to queries from the public]," Liba'i explained. "The Treasury will say: 'you've lived until now without such legislation, what do you need it now for?'"

## Court considers admissibility of statements by Deri co-defendant

TWO National Crimes Squad officers, who investigated the defendants in the trial of former interior minister Aryeh Deri, were questioned in Jerusalem District Court yesterday about the circumstances in which statements were made by co-defendant Moshe Weinberg.

The court is considering in a special hearing whether statements Weinberg gave police in

May 1991 can be admitted as evidence.

Weinberg claims he was asked to give a summary of incriminating evidence about himself and Deri while negotiating, to turn state's witness and since the deal fell through, the evidence cannot be used against him.

Police, however, maintain that the comments were made after the negotiations broke down.

Under cross-examination yesterday, Chief Superintendent Nahum Levy said that after Weinberg met with former inspector-general Ya'acov Turner, police asked for the statements.

However, Levy said Weinberg refused to give the evidence, "so the deal was over and we arrested him."

Moreover, Levy noted that as soon as Weinberg was arrested

the offer of becoming a state's witness was null.

The interrogation that followed the arrest was therefore usable as evidence, he said.

The second witness, Chief Superintendent Meir Michaelovitz, said Weinberg offered to sign an agreement several times but would always back out at the last minute, saying he had nothing to say.

(Itim)

## Histadrut debt has run up to NIS 1.2b

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

THE first Histadrut Comptroller's Report since the changing of leadership in the labor federation last June finds that severe irregularities in financial transactions in 1992-93 led to a NIS 1.2 billion deficit by the end of 1994.

The report was released yesterday, and presented to the Histadrut parliament.

Contrary to expectations, the report does not point to suspicion of criminal or illegal acts or connect any Histadrut officials with the alleged financial corruption affair now being investigated by the police.

The report stresses that neither the new leadership nor the comptroller managed to obtain a complete picture of the Histadrut's finances or assets. Due to the absence of data concerning the finances and properties of Hevrat Ovdim, trade unions and other bodies belonging to the Histadrut, the comptroller states, it was impossible to assess the Histadrut's financial situation.

Accountants who prepared an interim report in June 1994 expressed doubt whether the Histadrut would be able to pay its debts, the report notes.

Focusing on the Histadrut's finances in 1992-1993, the report reveals transactions which had been kept under wraps by the previous

leadership, including some which police are analyzing.

The report also indicates lack of proper conduct, organizational chaos, irregularities and inadequate supervision in the various sections of Histadrut, including the local labor councils, Na'amat, Mofet, the pension funds, Hapoel, Kupat Holim and other bodies.

Moreover, the comptroller found severe irregularities in the local labor councils' management, finances and functioning. Only 25 percent of the councils investigated held a convention, as required, and most councils did not operate their elected institutions and committees. The councils prepared their financial reports very late, and most were not made according to acceptable accounting principles, and lacked required information, the report says.

The comptroller notes that in the second half of 1994 the stream of complaints against labor council officials increased. The report estimates that the leadership change in the Histadrut and political rivalry are among the causes for the increased complaints, several of which were anonymous.

The report recommends that the Histadrut leadership deal with these issues by means of decisive legislation and by issuing detailed guidelines for public officials' conduct.

## Police question Olmert about former deputy's allegations

JERUSALEM Mayor Ehud Olmert was questioned under caution by police in Jerusalem yesterday regarding a complaint filed against him by his former deputy mayor, Meshulam Amit.

Earlier this year, Amit had filed a complaint with the police regarding financial irregularities in the municipality, which related mainly to the period of Olmert's predecessor, Teddy Kollek, but also applied to the beginning of Olmert's term.

Olmert met with Amit and asked him to withdraw the com-

plaint. Amit asked for a day to think it over, and at a meeting the following day, he secretly taped his conversation with the mayor. He then turned the tape over to police and filed another complaint, claiming Olmert had threatened to relieve him of his deputy mayor's duties if he didn't withdraw his original complaint.

Following the second complaint, Olmert suspended Amit as deputy mayor, a move upheld by the High Court of Justice. Amit eventually resigned the post.

(Itim)

## Deaf men marry hearing women, not vice-versa

JUDY SIEGEL

EIGHTY-FIVE percent of married deaf people marry another deaf person, according to a new survey of the deaf conducted by Tel Aviv University researchers. The study, which comprised a representative sample of the deaf in Israel from age 18 to 81, found that deaf men were much more likely to marry a hearing wife than deaf women were likely to marry a hearing man.

The study, conducted by Ronit Yafet-Yitzkar of TAU's school of education, will be presented at the

18th International Congress for Deaf Education, to be held at the university next week.

Some 400 lectures will be presented, and 800 experts from 50 countries will attend.

The researcher found that deaf people who married someone without a handicap were themselves much more likely to be better educated, of Western origin and to have developed hearing disabilities later in life instead of being born with them.

## High Court asks Gush Dan parole board to justify its early release of Alperon

EVELYN GORDON

THE High Court of Justice has given the Gush Dan parole board eight days to justify its decision to let leading underworld figure Nissim Alperon out of jail 26 months early.

The show-cause order was issued in response to a petition by the state, which argued that the early release was not justified by Alperon's record and constituted a danger to the public. Alperon, sentenced to eight years in jail, was released on May 31.

In its petition, the state noted

that Alperon had been granted an early release from jail while serving two previous sentences. Both times he went straight back to a life of crime.

Furthermore, the petition said, the police have intelligence information indicating that Alperon continued to organize criminal activity even from his jail cell.

The petition noted that the parole board decided not to release Alperon, for precisely these rea-

sons. He then appealed to the Nazareth District Court, which upheld the parole board's decision. However, when Alperon re-submitted his request to the parole board a few months later, that board, made up of a different group of people, decided to okay the early release.

The board's main reason for this decision was the state of Alperon's family, and especially his two daughters - whom, the board said the girls ought to have a chance to know their father.

## Bomb detonated in Gush Katif

HERB KEINON

THE IDF safely detonated a roadside bomb planted near the settlement of Ganei Tal yesterday. It was the second time in five days that an explosive device was found near a Gush Katif settlement and exploded.

IDF sources said the bomb, placed on a patrol road between Khan Yunis and Gush Katif, was discovered after a local Palestinian reported a suspicious object.

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**EDITH SILVERMAN**

May her dear soul rest in peace  
Passed away peacefully.

Beloved mother of Gina and Ellie Eting  
Grandmother of Leon, Michal, Jonathan, Eva,  
Georgia, Amir

The funeral will leave from Beit Protea today,  
July 10, 1995, at 2:15 p.m., for the Herzliya Cemetery.  
Transportation will be provided from Beit Protea.

**The National Institutions**

The Jewish Agency for Israel The World Zionist Organization  
mourn the tragic death of

**SHLOMO BIRAN** ז"ל

Emisary of the National Institutions in Mexico City  
Educator and Man of Action  
who labored tirelessly on behalf of the Zionist idea.

We share in the deep mourning of Yael, Zili, Shiri and Inbal  
Avraham Burg Chairman of the Executive Charles Goodman  
Chairman, Board of Governors

**Shlomo Cohen**

has passed away at Tel Hashomer  
(Saturday night 8.7.95)

Sadly missed by his loving wife Eileen, his sons Shmuelik  
and Motti and his brothers Eliezer and Albert, his daughter  
in law Vered and his sisters in law Aliza and Ann  
and nephews and nieces.

May his soul rest in peace  
Shiva is being held at Rehov Bilu 41, Tel-Aviv

**The Board of Directors of Keren Kayemeth LeIsrael**

deeply mourns the untimely passing of

**ZELMA BROWN**

Wife of Eddie Brown  
Former President of JNF - Great Britain

and extends its sincere condolences to the family.  
Her death is a great loss to all of us.

Moshe Rivlin  
Chairman, Board of Directors

**The President and the Board of Governors of  
HEBREW UNION COLLEGE -  
JEWISH INSTITUTE OF RELIGION**

mourn the untimely death of

**ROBERT L. ADLER**

devoted member of the Board of Governors  
for three decades

Dr. Alfred Gottschalk, President  
Stanley P. Gold, Chairman  
of the Board of Governors

**The Jewish Agency for Israel**

deeply mourns the passing of

**ROBERT (Bob) ADLER** ז"ל

Chicago, Illinois

who served the Jewish people and the State of Israel as a dedicated  
member of the Jewish Agency Board of Governors. His leadership and  
friendship will be sorely missed. We share the grief of Jean and the family.

Avraham Burg Chairman, The Executive Charles Goodman  
Chairman, Board of Governors

**A GATHERING OF FRIENDS  
in memory of****Rev. Dr. CARL HERMANN VOSS**

who passed away in Jacksonville, Florida

on March 14, 1995

will be held in the Synagogue

of Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion

13 King David Street, Jerusalem

at noon on Thursday, July 13, 1995

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman, for the Committee



Amcha offers condolences to

Executive Director

**JOHN LEMBERGER**

on the passing of his father

**VICTOR** ז"ל**Serbs push into Moslem area**

SARAJEVO (Reuters) - United Nations officials said yesterday that Bosnian Serb forces had gained ground in the eastern enclave of Srebrenica after heavy fighting with government troops in the UN-designated "safe area".

Bosnian Serbs surged three km into the southeastern part of the Moslem pocket, overrunning two UN observation posts.

The Serb advance underlined the increasingly precarious position faced by UN troops in Bosnia, where fighting has escalated in the past month.

UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, saying the peacekeeping mission was at a turning point, told his top aides in Geneva to lobby the warring parties to agree peace or be ready to pull out UN troops.

Bosnian troops defending the Srebrenica enclave tried to prevent Dutch peacekeepers from fleeing and killed one of the UN soldiers in a grenade attack at a roadblock. UN spokesman Rida Ettarashy said in Zagreb.

Fierce fighting has raged since Thursday in the Srebrenica pocket with the Serbs apparently intent on capturing high ground to the southeast controlling important supply routes.

The Serb advance stranded Dutch soldiers at two observation posts. One unit of seven peacekeepers chose to be escorted by Serb forces north to the town of Brahmac rather than risk crossing into government-held territory, the UN said.

Bosnian state radio said 4,000 people had fled the fighting in the enclave. The Moslem-led government called for an emergency meeting of the Security Council over Srebrenica.

UN commanders asked NATO warplanes to fly over the enclave for the second successive day in an attempt to calm the situa-



A Bosnian Serb soldier holds his dog during a lull in fighting near the village of Trnovo, 30 km. south of Sarajevo over the weekend. (AP)

tion but later withdrew the aircraft.

Since NATO jets struck Bosnian Serb positions near Sarajevo in May and Serbs shot down a US F-16, the UN has been reluctant to call in allied aircraft, fearing even their presence would inflame the situation on the ground.

The UN can do little to halt the Serb advance in Srebrenica but officials said fighting on the edge of the pocket need not be seen as an attempt to seize the enclave.

The boundaries of the UN-declared "safe area" around Srebrenica have never been clearly defined and the Bosnian Serbs have long disputed the demarcation line to the southeast.

UN spokesman Gary Coward said the Serb attack seemed to be an attempt to redraw lines.

"Our view remains that the Serbs have a limited objective but if they move beyond the line the claim on the map, then we will have to reconsider," he said.

Srebrenica has been besieged since 1992. UN forces arrived in May 1993 to protect the so-called "safe area" after a Serb offensive squeezed thousands of refugees into a small area around the mountain town.

The German weekly *Welt am Sonntag* reported that NATO planned to ask its members for more pledges of troops and equipment to support a possible withdrawal of U.N. peacekeepers.

UN officials cautiously welcomed a Bosnian Serb agreement to allow aid trucks into Sarajevo, but are well aware such promises had been broken before.

If a convoy planned for tomorrow was not obstructed it would be the first to reach the city in more than two weeks. Aid officials say the city needs two large food convoys a day to meet its food requirements properly.

**Korean rescued after 10 days**

SEOUL (AP) - The rescue worker first ignored the faint tapping - probably someone else digging for bodies. Surely no one could be alive in this jumble of concrete and steel rods after 10 days.

Then came the almost-inaudible plea. "Save me. Please save me. Water. Quickly."

An hour later on this rainy morning, Choi Myong-suk was pulled from a collapsed shopping mall where it seemed there was no chance of life, where no life had been found in a week, where 160 people have been confirmed dead so far and another 260 are missing.

The 21-year-old children's shoe salesman had survived, in amazingly good condition, in an area that had not been a high priority to search because it appeared anything much larger than a mouse must have been crushed.

There was nothing to drink but a trickle of rainwater. There was nothing to eat but a cardboard box in the 1.2-meter-wide pocket that was too short to stand up in.

His only company were the bodies of two other people who survived the initial disaster, only to die later.

"During the first few days, I thought I would be rescued," Choi said from his hospital bed.

But he became increasingly frustrated as he heard rescue workers nearby, searching the rubble of what had been a five-story wing of the ritzy Sampoong Department Store.

"They would dig, and go away, dig, and go away," he said. "I was depressed."

As he waited in the darkness, flicking on a lighter occasionally to see, Choi's sense of time warped. He figured he had been trapped only five days.

"I thought of my parents, my friends," he said, adding that he dreamed he was flying like a bird with his parents, going on a vacation together.

But when he was awake, reality set in.

"When I was too hungry, I ripped a bit of a box to eat," he said. "I slept when I got sleepy. What was most difficult was that when it wasn't raining, there wasn't any water. I did think that I would die. There were others around me, but they are dead."

Then yesterday, workers found two bodies just above Choi. One was a mother of four who had given him her phone number so he could call her family if he survived.

"We were digging up the remains, and we thought we heard a small voice," rescue worker Kim Sang-whan said. "We turned off our machine, and listened."

TV networks went live nationwide as workers using torches and power drills cut through concrete slabs and pulled Choi free.

**Russians, Chechens resume peace talks**

MOSCOW (Reuters) - Russians and Chechens resumed their peace talks yesterday and seemed set to tackle the key question of Chechnya's constitutional status.

Russian negotiator Arkady Volyski indicated to journalists before talks resumed in the regional capital of Grozny that the two sides were wide apart on the issue.

The Chechens were insisting on recognition by Moscow of the unilateral independence declared in 1991 while the Russian side argued the status issue could be settled only after elections "which will reflect the mood in the republic", Volyski said, according to Itar-Tass news agency.

Thousands of people have been killed since President Boris Yeltsin invaded the north Caucasus territory in December to crush its bid for independence from the Russian Federation.

Serious peace talks only got under way after a bloody hostage-taking raid by Chechens on the southern Russian town

of Budennovsk in June.

In Moscow, the Constitutional Court was to meet today at the request of the lower house of parliament, largely hostile to the President, to debate the legality of the decision made by Yeltsin and the government to send in the army.

At a news conference, Deputy Prime Minister Sergei Shakhrai said the government would show categorically it and the president had been acting in line with the constitution.

"We will show that political means (to solve the crisis) had been exhausted. We will show that in December 1994 the only constitutional way out and the obligations of the president and the government required the use of force," Shakhrai said.

The talks yesterday, at the mission headquarters of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), opened with Chechen military commander Aslan Maskhadov handing over three Russian prisoners in a

goodwill gesture, Tass said.

But reports suggested no agreement had been reached on key questions. The sides "have so far failed to reach an agreement on political issues", Usman Imaev said as he left the OSCE mission during a break.

A night of shooting underscored the fragility of a cease-fire. Interfax news agency said three Russian servicemen were wounded Saturday night when rebels opened fire on villages in the southeast.

It said rebels had violated the truce more than 15 times overnight, Interfax added.

Russian chief negotiator Vyacheslav Mikhailov, in upbeat comments, said the talks were "moving towards peace". But the question of Chechnya's status and the future of rebel leader Dzhokhar Dudayev appear to be big stumbling blocks.

Previous talks have produced the shaky truce and a tentative deal for disengaging troops and guerrilla forces.

**Mandela: Apartheid's to blame for crime**

CHATSWORTH (Reuters) -

President Nelson Mandela, opening an international Hindu gathering yesterday, blamed apartheid for South Africa's high crime rate but said his government was addressing the problem.

"Many people do not know why the crime rate is so high today. It is precisely the legacy of apartheid," Mandela told about 10,000 delegates near Durban.

"Were you aware that in this country, where whites only constitute 14 percent of the population, 82 percent of the police were deployed in white areas and only 18 percent in the rest of the country?"

"Were you aware that most vehicles of the police were concentrated in white areas and in the black areas (there were)

only a few vehicles?"

He said police constables until recently received monthly salaries of about 900 rand (NIS 840).

"What policeman could be motivated if he was so exploited?" Mandela said the ANC-led government of national unity had increased police salaries as part of efforts to combat crime.

"The government has put (safety and security) among its highest priorities. Those who break the law must know they will be caught, and they will face the full force of the law," he said.

Mandela told the crowd the government which took office after South Africa's first all-race elections in April last year had made progress which "surpassed all expectations".

"Time and again the prophets of doom have been confounded.

The reason for our success thus far is the powerful urge towards consensus which is coursing through our society, cutting across all the old divisions which apartheid imposed on us."

Mandela paid tribute to the Hindu faith, which he said had strongly influenced South Africa's liberation struggle.

Mandela had just returned from a week-long visit to East Asia and said he plans a state visit to Singapore in the near future.

Mandela, who stopped in Singapore en route home from his first trip to South Korea and met briefly with Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong.

Mandela said their discussions focused on investment in South Africa.

"I am looking forward to business from this country," he said.

**NY murder rate hits 25-year low**

NEW YORK (AP) - The number of murders in New York City so far this year are at the lowest level in a quarter of a century.

Police department statistics show an overall 18 percent decrease in crime during the first six months of 1995 compared to the same period in 1994.

The statistics show reported murders have fallen by nearly a third, from 826 in 1994 to 563 this year. If the trend continues through the remainder of the year, 1995 will record the fewest slayings since 1970's 1,117.

With deep sorrow we announce the passing of  
our dear mother and grandmother

**LUCIE (Shulamit) DIAMANT**

The funeral took place on Sunday in Jerusalem

Gabriel Diamant and Family, Ra'anana  
Artel Diamant and family, Eliat

On the *shloshim* for my beloved husband

**MICHEL ZAMIR** ז"ל

we will meet on Wednesday, July 12, 1995, at 4 p.m.,  
at the Har Hamenuhot Cemetery.

Eva Zamir

**China sends mixed signals on treating Wu**

BEIJING (AP) - China's government has sent mixed signals about how it will treat a Chinese-born US citizen and human rights activist accused of spying, fellow activists said yesterday.

Harry Wu was formally charged Saturday with stealing state secrets and passing them to overseas organizations.

The charges, relayed in a brief dispatch by the state-run Xinhua News Agency, were the first official word of Wu's fate in more than 10 days.

He was taken into custody June 19 entering China's northwestern Xinjiang province from Kazakhstan.

US Embassy officials, denied access to Wu throughout his detention, hoped to meet with him as early as today.

Wu spent 19 years in China's prison labor camps.

**American hostage escapes from Kashmir**

SRINAGAR, India (AP) - An American tourist kidnapped while hiking in Kashmir said yesterday darkness and rain allowed him to slip away from the separatist rebels who captured him.

And an Indian military officer told a dramatic story about rescuing John Childs in a helicopter near the peak of a mountain about 15 hours after he had escaped from his captors.

But the militants who still hold one American and two British hostages threatened to "take an extreme step" unless the Indian government releases their 21 comrades by July 15.

Al-Faran, a little-known Moslem group fighting for Kashmir's independence from India, also demanded immediate end of "genocide of Moslems" by the military. "Accept our demands or face dire consequences," said the group in a written statement sent to local newspaper offices.

Childs was kidnapped Tuesday evening along with another American and two Britons by the group. Al-Faran claimed responsibility for kidnapping the two Americans and two Britons.

"I was not released, I escaped at 2 a.m. Saturday," said Childs of Simsbury, Connecticut. He had not been injured by his captors.

**Hugh Grant, Liz Hurley end their eight-year romance**

LONDON (Reuters) - British actor Hugh Grant and his partner Liz Hurley are to split and end their eight-year romance after he was caught by Los Angeles police with a prostitute, *The Sunday Mirror* reported.

Hurley, 29, has signed a £1 million contract with Estee Lauder and the paper cited highly placed sources in the cosmetics company for its report.

Company executives quoted by the paper insisted no pressure

had been put on Hurley but said Estee Lauder kept out of the affair in the belief "she would realize the right thing to do".

Grant, 34, star of the hit comedy film *Four Weddings and a Funeral*, saw his world turned upside down last month after police charged him with lewd conduct.

Grant has flown to the US for a string of television chat show appearances in which he is expected once more to apologize publicly.



# Roll rocks Beersheba Theater

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

**D**URING intermission at two recent productions at the Beersheba Theater - Middleton and Rowley's *The Changeling* and Thomas Bernhard's *The Lime Works* - up to two-thirds of ticket-holders made a beeline for the exits and didn't come back.

Gadi Roll, who has been artistic general director of the Beersheba company for nearly two years, says such reactions aren't a cause for alarm. "I'm not creating revolutions for the sake of revolutions. I'm doing what I believe I should be doing as a director of a theater which is subsidized by the state and has a huge subscription base."

Audiences may not have loved these avant-garde productions of a Jacobean tragedy and an absurdist play, but critics generally hailed them.

"I knew exactly what I was doing. And what I expected in each case, artistically and audience-wise, did happen," continues Roll, who at 35 is the youngest company director around. "I was not surprised by the audience reaction."

At one point though there was a real fear in the theater that subscribers would be reluctant to renew their subscriptions for the coming season.

Again, Roll is not worried. "At this moment, though, we

already have 4,700 subscribers. Last year we had close to 8,000, but those included high-school and university students who begin subscribing only in October. The subscription campaign is still on its way and I'm sure we will have no fewer subscribers than we had this season."

Roll does not think he failed with either show, although he is somewhat disappointed that they were not invited to other theaters around the country.

But he admits that the audience response to *The Lime Works* made him change his initial season plan.

"The production was intended as a regular subscription show and the first week of shows was indeed for subscribers. When we saw the reaction, I changed it into a bonus show and instead gave subscribers a choice to see one of several productions from other theaters. After the first week no one was forced to see *The Lime Works*."

**BOTH** *The Changeling* and *The Lime Works* were directed by foreigners - an American, Robert Woodruff, and a Pole, Krystian Lupu, respectively. The show theater mounted in between, Ray Cooney's *Funny Money*, was directed by another foreigner, Ron

Aldridge from Britain. When Roll announced that his next show, *The Baker's Wife*, would be directed by Italian Federico Davia, local directors expressed outrage.

Ilan Ronen, the chairman of the directors' union, officially complained that the Beersheba Theater was neglecting local directors.

Roll understands the criticism but replies that "only the first two [plays] were planned for this season. *Funny Money* was not planned for the season and came in after the audience's response to *The Changeling*. Obtaining the rights for this play meant putting it on with Aldridge."

As to *The Baker's Wife*, Roll says that he approached a large number of local directors including Itzik Weingarten, Miki Gurevitch, Omri Nitzan, Zippi Pines and Ronen himself, but all were either uninterested or unavailable.

"I had to put the show on this season as it had already been postponed from the opening of the season," because its lead star, Yossi Banai, was suffering from heart trouble. Now the lead will be performed by Ze'ev Revah.

Roll adds: "I will always employ foreign directors, but the proportion will be different from

the one created this season."

He says that Woodruff will return next season. But, in contrast to all the other local artistic directors, who announced their seasons several months ago, Roll is not willing to disclose any other details about next season, not even which show will open it in the fall.

In the last few weeks, however, Beersheba Theater subscribers received a brochure announcing a list of 14 plays, out of which between six and eight will eventually be performed.

The very impressive and far from conventional list includes Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Pericles*, Racine's *Britannicus*, Pam James's *The Blue Angel*, Brian Friel's *Philadelphia Here I Come*, Jean Anouilh's *The Rehearsal*, Michael Frayn's *Noises Off*, and several other intriguing plays, most of which have never been performed in this country.

In the near future subscribers will get a somewhat more specific list, but Roll prefers to wait "until I have directors and major casting signed before I announce the season to the press." He reckons that he will have most of this information by September.

Since he joined the Beersheba Theater, Roll has notched up several major successes, including *Educating Rita*, *L'Atelier*,



Artistic director Roll has no qualms about shaking up the stage with new material.

and *Pangs of Youth*. But when he speaks about his preferences, he names only *The Changeling* and *The Lime Works*.

"Yes," he acknowledges, "there is a gap between my personal taste and my responsibility as an artistic general director. Had I been a director in Berlin I would have been able to do six shows like these a year. Here it is different."

There is no doubt that Roll has shaken up the local theater community this season. It remains to be seen whether audiences, critics and boards will allow him to continue "to wake up local theater from its deep hibernation and show people that there is different theater as well."

# Kinder, gentler festival in Arad

KAREN SULKIS

**T**HE Arad Festival, the country's annual "Woodstock" for home-grown artists, promises to be somewhat easier on residents of the normally quiet desert town this year.

After years of renting all the stages and equipment needed for the four-day extravaganza - which this year takes place on Monday, July 17, through Thursday, July 20 - the festival organizers have at last built some of their own special venues and located them away from the town center.

The new rock stage, along with a more adult-oriented 2,000 reserved-seat venue, is located in Arad's industrial zone, reports festival director Moshe Glanz, who during the year is a high-school teacher. These sites will accommodate some of the louder concerts and some of the bigger names.

There will still be performances in the center of town, though, with a total of 19 stages in Arad and vicinity. Glanz, however, is aiming to get the rollicking performers who appear on stages near residential areas to call it quits by "midnight, 1 a.m., so people can rest," he says.

One performance will be held way out of town - festival perennial David Broza is slated to perform a closing, sunrise concert at Masada.

Other favorites scheduled to perform are Rami Kleinstein and Abinoam Nini. Ofra Haza is slated to sing here for the first time since leaving the country seven years ago. And, say organizers, Yehudit Ravitz is putting together a special program with Esther Ofarim, who hasn't performed on a local stage for many years. Glanz promises fans a few surprises as well.

Glanz's deputy, Nehama Gior, notes that other artists, such as Shlomo Artzi and Friends of Natasha, are also collaborating on special shows for the festival. And who knows what Aviv Geffen will have up his tortured sleeve when he takes over the new rock stage on the festival's final night?

"We want rock for the young people and Israeli folk for the older people," says Glanz. "The festival is for all those who love music, and it must be big enough for everyone to find what they want."

# This ugly duckling rates a swan song

FILM REVIEW

ADINA HOFFMAN

## MURIEL'S WEDDING

★ ★

Written and directed by P.J. Hogan. Hebrew title: *Hanna shel Muriel*. 105 minutes. English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Parental guidance strongly suggested.

Muriel Heslop ..... Toni Collette  
Bill Heslop ..... Bill Hunter  
Rhonda ..... Rachel Griffiths  
Betty Heslop ..... Jennie Drynan

Could it possibly be a coincidence that this year has marked the release of not one, but two Australian films about extroverted outcasts who lip-synch ABBA songs while wearing loud polyesters and ridiculous wigs?

In Stephen Elliott's *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*, several happy-go-lucky transvestites piled onto a purple bus and headed across the Aussie wilderness, occasionally making a pit stop to wiggle their hips and their mouths to the words of "Mama Mia" or "Fernando."

*Priscilla* was a sweet entertainment. However, this theme - self-realization through spandex and Swedish disco hits - gets old pretty quickly, especially when these shallow trappings aren't anchored in the abundant good will that characterized every minute of Elliott's film.

Good will is precisely what's missing from *Muriel's Wedding*. P.J. Hogan's writing/directing debut. A broad comedy about an ugly duckling who transforms herself into a swan by fantasizing about other people's wedding gowns and listening compulsively to "Dancing Queen," the film is meant to be charming. It may indeed tickle viewers' whose tastes run toward the garish; I found it both crude and cruel.

A native of a tacky beach town called Porpoise Spit, Muriel Heslop (Toni Collette) is, by her own description, "stupid, fat and useless." She's got an abusive father (Bill Hunter), a zombie for a mother (Jennie Drynan), a bunch of overweight siblings and zero self-esteem. Her "friends" are a pack of nasty, preening hussies

who have no qualms about telling her how awfully she embarrasses them. These thin party girls are mortified to be seen with Muriel, whose clothes, hair and makeup, they coldly inform her, are a disaster.

When this humble pie is thrown in her face, Muriel bursts into tears. Now, this is the first of many moments in the film that feels like it ought to be poignant and subtle and oddly stirring, a chance for us to empathize with the awkward heroine - but it's not.

Far from it. Muriel's crookedly painted mouth gapes open like a terrible, raw wound, her eyes scrunch up, her mascara puddles and, if anything, we may secretly agree with the thin party girls. Muriel is a wreck.

With all the compunction of a tabloid photographer on a deadline, Hogan shoves his camera right into her face, and we realize in horror that he's playing her deep pain for laughs! (When I saw the movie, several members of the audience did chuckle - though uneasily, as if they weren't quite sure themselves that the sight of a heavyset, aced loner in the throes of mortal agony was in any way amusing.)

Hogan displays no such discomfort or compassion. He just assumes we'll root for this blob, no matter how meanly he depicts her. In the beginning of the film - when Muriel is miserable, unemployed and living in Porpoise Spit - he repeatedly zooms in so tight that we can see right up her nostrils. It seems this microscopic view of Muriel's big pores and cheek flab is meant to help us understand her psychic distress better.

And almost as bad as these humiliating close-ups are the flattering angles he uses to photograph Muriel later, when she moves to Sydney, gets a job and moves in with her wise-cracking best friend, Rhonda (Rachel Griffiths). As if to reward her for taking this initiative, Hogan orders the cameraman to back off to a reasonable distance and, lo and behold, she looks great.



The theme of self-realization through spandex and Swedish disco hits gets old pretty quickly when not based on good will, as it is in 'The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert.'

Suddenly pretty and motivated, Muriel is like a weight-loss poster girl whose "before" snapshot was a dim, head-on polaroid of a frowning butterball, while "after" is a bright studio profile of a slimmed-down, made-over model, grinning ecstatically. Both incarnations are a little hard to believe.

The plot twists function much as the exaggerated camera work does. Hogan puts Muriel in all sorts of outlandish situations and then gives her special credit for getting out of them. He also makes sure she's treated to a few harder knocks - sick friends, a suicide - so that she'll have cause

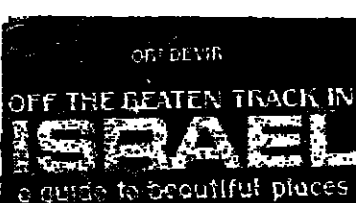
to grow. Then when she does grow (what else could she do?), it's supposed to be a sign of her increased self-knowledge and health.

But, really, which is the self that she now knows increasingly well? *Muriel's Wedding* means to be a movie about the importance of just being yourself and not putting on false fronts.

In order for Muriel to be "her-

self," though, she must shed many pounds, cut her frizzy hair and marry a hunky South African swimmer in an elaborate green-card wedding. Only then are we given permission to go ahead and admire her. Her extra chin is gone, her lipstick is straight: If it's true that appearances are unimportant, why do they seem to matter so much to the creators of this movie?

## OFF THE BEATEN TRACK IN ISRAEL



a guide to beautiful places  
Ori Devir

A special selection of some of the beautiful places in Israel... water sites, hills, desert, seashore, archeological finds and more... some accessible from the road and others that can only be reached on foot. The book is written for both the armchair traveler as well as active out-and-about explorers. Arranged by geographic regions, with maps at the beginning of each

page/excursion, and with instructions for getting to the locations. Based on the ITV production, *Nekudat Chen*. Hardcover. 1989. Adama Books.

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# Jacob's Ladder could use more joyful noise

JOEL GORDIN

**T**HE main stage show at the weekend's annual Jacob's Ladder Folk Festival started and ended with a bang - or rather, in the country-and-western context, a gunshot.

Like a pair of stylish bookends, Michael's Corral and Smokin' Gun held the show tightly in place and prevented some of the lesser acts from spoiling the overall excellent impression of the festival's 20th anniversary. Michael's Corral kicked off late, almost an hour after the promised starting time. But the audience quickly forgave the band as every number in its repertoire of country, country rock, and plain rock 'n' roll was a success.

It was followed by the Irish band Oge. The teenage lead singer Cara Dillon has a voice like a clear bell, but the group as a whole lacked stage presence for what was the evening's main show. Much of its music had the same sound and the audience started to fidget a while before the young Celts packed away their instruments. Tom Paxton

(last year's overseas guest) is a hard act to follow.

The Jennings Family and Friends, featuring Susan Jennings on an instrument known as the Appalachian dulcimer, also went on for too long. Their sound is interesting, but too heavy and mournful for a drawn-out concert on a festival's main stage.

If members of the audience had started to become restless during Oge's last numbers, they nodded off to the sounds of the second (local) Irish band, Black Velvet. Two Irish bands on the main stage was definitely too much: it's hard to understand why organizer Menahem Vinegrad did not vary the evening show by using some of the enormous talents who played on the day stages, like Jill Rogoff, Jug O' Pines, Betty Klein, Judy and Lynn Lewis, to mention just a few, instead of Black Velvet.

VINEGRAD deviated from the original program and brought in

Israeli legend Shuli "Jerusalem of Gold" Natan. Under fire for not supplying enough big names to compensate for the high entrance fees, Vinegrad obviously felt you can't get bigger than Natan.

But whether her music was suitable is debatable. In fact, many Anglo folk clubs have always avoided Israeli folk singers as they tend to turn the proceedings into community singing. Ironically, the number Natan did sing in English, "The Leaving of Liverpool," was probably the best folk song of the weekend. It was a pity that she did not sing more in English.

The night, or rather the early morning, ended with the explosive sounds of Smokin' Gun. This local band, consisting largely of expatriate Americans, produced a happy, powerful, foot-stompin' sound.

The setting at Kibbutz Ha'on was a big improvement on previous years, with the Kinneret making a splendid background to the main stage.

# SEE IT IN HEBREW HEAR IT IN ENGLISH!

POLLARD

July 11 at 8:30 p.m.

A fascinating story by Motti Lerner about the American-Jewish Spy with Shuly Rand in the leading role.

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## Disobedience and the law

**R**ABBIS who invoke religious law to rule on the duty of soldiers to obey orders are doing the army and the country a great disservice. Israel is a democratic state ruled by a democratically elected parliament and government. Its only valid laws are those passed by the Knesset and, in the case of doubt, approved by the High Court. To try to interpose religious law between the government and the army is to usurp the authority of the nation's representatives and to invite a dangerous - perhaps disastrous - polarization.

But the questions the rabbis raise are both crucial and relevant, and it is callous and irresponsible to dismiss them with a blanket, simplistic statement that "soldiers must obey orders."

No one should be more aware of the terrible wrongness of blind obedience to military orders than Jews. The most unspeakable crimes of the Holocaust were committed in the name of obedience, and no Israeli in his right mind will advocate that soldiers commit, say, the murder of prisoners because they have been ordered to do so. Obviously, there are orders that are patently illegal and should not be obeyed.

Nor is disobedience an idea invented by the rabbis. The very same politicians who are now outraged by the rabbis' suggestions that soldiers refuse to follow orders to evacuate Jewish villages in the territories are those who first called for disobedience.

The foremost among them is Environment Minister Yossi Sarid, who in a television debate on Friday night demanded that Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu declare that he unequivocally

opposes disobedience under any circumstances. Boasting that as an opposition leader he had squelched "with an iron hand" calls for insubordination in leftist circles (presumably during the Lebanon war and the intifada) Sarid said he expects the same from today's opposition.

But it was Sarid who was among the first to call for disobedience. With Yair Tzaban, now absorption minister, he wrote in *Yedioth Aharanot* in June 1990 that "Whoever wants to know where our red line is, it is here: we shall not obey the order to uproot whole villages during harvest time [as suggested in the Knesset]... We object to insubordination, but the day of a transfer order - which is patently illegal - will also be the day of our refusal to obey orders."

The villages whose uprooting Sarid deemed illegal were, of course, Arab communities, and the villages the rabbis believe must not be uprooted are Jewish. But the principle that the government cannot arbitrarily order people to abandon their homes may be the same. On the other hand, there may be a legal difference between what the government can do to its own citizens and what it can inflict on others.

One thing is clear: the question is not the simplistic "should soldiers obey orders," but whether the uprooting of whole communities in Judea, Samaria, and Gaza - an act obviously contemplated by the government - is legal. It is not a matter rabbis should resolve. Only the High Court of Justice has the authority to issue a ruling on this question, and its verdict must be obeyed by all.

## Snowballing circus

**T**HE European Union was in the news last week mainly because of its role in British Prime Minister John Major's political future. Most of his political troubles come from members of his ruling Conservative Party who are strenuously opposed to integrating Britain into the union, so European leaders were understandably miffed that their recent summit in Cannes was drowned out by the noise of the media pack in full pursuit of the British leader. The summit's 8-cm thick report on guidelines for proposed new members had no chance of making an impact other than as a useful prop for a wobbly camera tripod.

The EU leaders dealt with some serious business, particularly on two issues - aid to eastern Europe and increasing the membership of the union. They got scant publicity for a colossal grant of \$8.7 billion dollars in aid to former communist countries in eastern Europe. In the era of increasing American reluctance to be tied down on foreign aid, it is clear the European Union leaders remain relatively free of isolationist taxpayers snapping at their heels. But the taxpayers are getting restive on an indirect issue - for that aid allocated at Cannes aims to help prepare eastern European economies for what are going to be painful changes if they pursue their stated dream of becoming full-fledged EU members.

Apart from the ever grumbling British, other European citizens are beginning to wonder whether they really need to bring these troublesome poor neighbors into the Euro-club. With the accession of Austria, Sweden, and Finland

earlier this year, the unwieldy bureaucracy has added three new languages to its already creaking structures. At Cannes, potential new candidates were invited as observers. The addition of Poland, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovakia, Romania, Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Cyprus, and Malta to the traveling circus gave observers some idea of the enormity of the task the EU seems to be taking on. Reporters noted that simply finding beds and breakfasts for the swirling entourages strained Cannes to the limit.

A problem with potential eastern European members has been the perception in western Europe that, for all their long struggles for democracy, many of them have an unhealthy habit of voting former communist leaders to positions of power and influence. The only former eastern state taken fully into the EU was East Germany - on the most handsome terms and at huge costs to the West Germans, who bought its decrepit currency at one-to-one rates and are retooling its entire economy. West Germans have not exactly been overwhelmed by noises of gratitude from the east, where there lingers a deep nostalgia for the socialist featherbeds of jobs for life, free health care and education, and other illusory benefits that crippled all the communist "paradise" economies.

If the former east Germany is an example of what the whole EU may expect from new east European members, perhaps those eastern states should start wondering, like Groucho Marx, why they want to join a club that accepts states like them as members.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### BIGOTED OFFICER

Sir, - I read your article of June 8, "MK Yehalom: Suspend officer for alleged abuse of religious soldiers," with great dismay.

I have twin sons who elected to go to Israel and join the IDF out of a sense of pride and responsibility to Israel. They are both religious and perform all of their duties in a timely and professional manner. They are both in special forces and love Israel. It is unconscionable that an officer in the IDF could treat religious soldiers in his unit as he allegedly did.

If the officer did verbally abuse his religious soldiers, he should be severely disciplined and removed as an officer. If he becomes so stressed because his soldiers were eating late as a result of praying after finishing their regular duties, what would this officer do in a truly stressful situation where lives are in danger?

Religious soldiers have to work harder than the nonreligious soldiers since their religious obligations limit their sleep and off-duty time while in the IDF. These men do not complain about their religious obligations, but perform them with a quiet dignity. Officers who cannot understand this are unfit to lead. My wife and I worry about the well-being of our children in the IDF; we should not have to worry about incompetent and bigoted officers.

LEONARD D. WINER, M.D.  
Sharon, Mass.

### INDOCTRINATION LIKUD

Sir, - A radio commercial presented by your president and publisher lists the advantages of being a *Jerusalem Post* subscriber. One of the advantages is the improvement of the subscriber's English. That may be partly true, but then the president and publisher is not a native speaker and uses heavily accented English. Does that prove that running and reading the paper every day did him no good?

What is true beyond any doubt is that *The Jerusalem Post* is the most rabid Likud supporter in the Israeli press. Mr. Levy may claim until he is red in the face that he publishes on the op-ed page and elsewhere the views of the government and its coalition partners, but the fact remains that the editorials are inspired by extremist religious and Likud positions. This turns the paper not into an English-language school, but into an indoctrination instrument of the worst kind.

A case in point is the news that the treasury transferred NIS 200 million to the health funds (June 26) to cover its deficit after less than six months of National Health Insurance. One of the arguments of Ehud Olmert and his misguided partner in health legislation Haim Ramon was that the Histadrut health fund was mismanaged and a source of corruption, and therefore the government had to come to its rescue to the tune of hundreds of millions of shekels now and then. Has the National Health Law changed anything?

In many health areas, care for the aged for instance, things are going from bad to worse, as you will find by giving an assignment to some of your reporters, yarmouk and Likud-indoctrinated as they are.

NAAMA LUZ  
Givatayim.

### THE SOUND OF SILENCE

Sir, - Amongst the contrasting voices debating the question of the Golan - those of security, peace, water, biblical claims and return of captured territory - there is one that is jarringly absent. That voice is the voice of Meretz and other so-called liberals. One would expect idealists of that ilk to reject any relationship closer than one based on strictly security arrangements with a regime such as Syria's. After all those who scorned, later alas, Israeli ties with apartheid South Africa and the Argentine of the disappearances must surely vigorously condemn the brutal dictatorship of a police state. A regime which does not flinch from butchering many thousands of its own people, which callously retains the remains of Eli Cohen and which ignores the cries of the parents of our missing soldiers, is not one with which we should seek "friendly relations."

Uri Avnery voiced the cynical dream of "eating humus in Damascus." On the same menu, we would find the boeroers of Botha and the chorizo of the colonels.

LOUIS GARB  
Jerusalem.



## A make-believe world

CHAIM HERZOG

**D**URING all the years of the state's existence we have seen many cases of security leaks, including the transfer of security material to the enemy. Frequently, the justification given was the inability to agree with the policy of the government in power.

There come to mind cases like that of Yisrael Beer, a kibbutz member who maintained a constant relationship with a member of the Soviet embassy in the 1950s.

Beer was arrested in 1961 for spying for the Soviet Union. More recently, Mordechai Vanunu decided that he knew what was best for the country and revealed secret material to newspapers abroad. Vanunu was sentenced to 17 years' imprisonment.

As one who twice served as director of military intelligence under David Ben-Gurion, I well recall several cases of leaks of classified material.

Ben-Gurion's reaction in every case was tough and uncompromising. In some cases, brilliant officers with outstanding records saw their careers come to an end over the leakage of security information.

The Israeli press, too, showed it understood the importance of the matter, and cooperated responsibly with the army to protect state security.

The recent leaking of the military planning division position paper on our negotiations with the Syrians is the first time that I can recall a highly classified document being made public, and the issue becoming a subject for public opinion polls.

Most Israelis condemned the act. But there were also those who expressed support.

Times have changed. We live in an age of open media activity. Nevertheless, I cannot condone the leader of the opposition's publicizing of a classified military document.

It doesn't matter how convinced one may be of the rights of

**The most disturbing aspect of the security leak was the public attempt to justify it**

one's case. Where state security is at issue, there can be no acquiescence in breaching that security for political reasons.

Such behavior can only lead to a state of anarchy in the name of the public's "right to know." In no democratic society is this right unrestricted.

THERE ARE areas that need and deserve classification until the time comes to publish. This is the case with the negotiations with Syria.

How can one justify the publication of an internal IDF working

paper at a time when the chief of staff is negotiating with the Syrian counterpart? How can IDF officers possibly express their professional views freely in an atmosphere of leakages, and amid the politicization of security positions?

Many years ago it was decided that any MK who wants to read out a classified document which has come into his possession must first submit the document to censorship in order to guarantee that no breach of security is involved.

The leader of the opposition not only failed to comply with this procedure, but took pride in his action.

Would he have acted thus as prime minister?

The leaking of classified material is a very serious transgression, one that should be divorced from party political or any kind of dogmatic considerations.

When it happens in the IDF, it is all the more disturbing, painting the image of an organization which has lost its discipline.

This latest leak emphasizes yet again the necessity for a thorough overhaul of our defense establishment's security setup.

But the most disturbing aspect has been the public attempt to justify and defend the leak.

It is time we left the misty, make-believe world in which the security of soldiers and citizens is tossed about in the political winds, unguided by any solid criteria or values.

The writer was Israel's sixth president.

## Generals in diplomatic dress

YISRAEL HAREL

**T**HE position paper written by the IDF's chief planner which takes Israel's full withdrawal from the Golan for granted signifies the growing politicization of the army.

The leaking of the document shows that the IDF has knowingly - perhaps even willingly - taken over steering the talks with Syria toward results that legislators and politicians will be required to rubber-stamp.

The possibility of withdrawal from the Golan arouses strong public feeling.

Essentially, this isn't a military-political issue; at heart, it's a question of ideology. On top of its historical, emotional and religious load come all the Zionist values created here over the past century, especially the sanctity of settlement.

In the talks between IDF generals and Syrian army leaders, Israel's negotiators take the uprooting of settlements and full withdrawal from the Golan as a starting point, as does Brig.-Gen. Zvi Stauber, who drafted the document in question and is a member of the Israeli negotiating team (*Ha'aretz*, June 30).

Thus, without our even being aware of it, the army has made the decision for us - and it's a precedent-creating decision, one of the most fateful for the Jewish people since it attained its independence in its land.

The army isn't and cannot be a party in the debate that is tearing the nation apart. It certainly must not be the authority that de facto drafts and determines Israel's political steps.

If the defense minister understood the most elementary rules of government in Israel, there is serious concern about the IDF willingly dealing with matters it should be

shunning like fire. It seems that the political echelon prefers the army, and not the politicians, to decide where the state's borders should be.

But this is no business of an army in a democracy. And the judicial establishment, which could be expected to raise this constitutional issue before the Knesset or the government, is too busy protecting the rights of Hamas detainees undergoing interrogation, and imposing the law on settlers.

Even that watchdog of democracy, the media, is chiefly busy watching the politicians to see whether they are following the path of political correctness.

And when the army is harnessed to the cause of "correctness," who will be left to raise the nagging questions of principle about this dangerous overstepping of boundaries?

And who will attribute any importance to the fact that the premier and the foreign minister were caught out lying to the Knesset and the public over the Golan document - just as they were some months ago over the letter on Jerusalem?

Leading pundits are thus left with nothing to do but write dozens of articles on fateful questions such as who leaked the document, how he will be caught, and what will happen to him.

And the main issue will be: How can the leak be turned into a perpetual weapon to be used against Benjamin Netanyahu, to tarnish his image and reduce his chances of being elected prime minister in the next elections?

The writer is chairman of the Council of Jewish Residents of Judea, Samaria and Gaza and editor of *Nekuda*.

Where have all the women gone?

ESTHER HERTZOG

**A**NYONE who believes that democracy means giving representation to as many sectors of the population as possible should support David Levy and his efforts to form a new party.

Anyone who isn't a woman of Sephardi or Oriental background, that is. These women have been excluded from the Levy camp.

Levy and his supporters have demanded fair regional representation that includes peripheral areas in the north and south. In particular - even if not in so many words - they have demanded representation for the Sephardi and Oriental population that they claim to represent.

This demand is unimpeachably fair and just, both ideologically and in terms of political reasonableness, considering the massive support the Likud enjoys within the Oriental and Sephardi communities.

BUT HERE'S a question: If Levy and his supporters are true advocates of the principle of maximal representation of different population groups, where have they hidden all the Sephardi and Oriental women, who make up at least 50 percent of Likud voters?

There are no women in the group that has been accompanying Levy for many years. His camp - on the public level at least - seems as woman-free as the high echelons of the IDF.

The "only" women who have ever received a mention in the

**David Levy's camp is an exclusive male preserve**

nection with Levy during his many years of political activity are his wife (usually in the context of his large number of children) and his daughter, as a flavor-of-the-month beauty, the daughter of a famous father.

This is one step up from "Bibi's women," but it's still on the level of "Look good (or devoted), and shut up."

If there are any women from the Oriental or Sephardi communities in the Levy camp other than hangers-on and silent supporters, then it's high time they spoke up.

Women from these communities, together with Arab women, are at the lowest level of salaries in the economy. They have the lowest level of education, and the lowest rate of advancement (excluding the Arabs).

They work as house cleaners, industrial workers, and petty clerks. Have they no interest in making their voice heard?

Don't have need representation?

Don't they want to overturn the warped order in which they remain the eternal vassals of society, constantly bearing children and being on the receiving end of the heaviest blows dealt out by the ruling Ashkenazi males?

If, in sum, there are women in the Likud who are genuinely interested in democracy, who are really interested in equal representation for women and in social equality, then they don't belong in Bibi's camp - or in Levy's.

They belong in an independent camp of their own - one that is really fighting for equality, even when it comes to Sephardi and Oriental women.

The writer lectures on sociology and anthropology at Beit Berl College in Kfar Sava.

### PENFRIENDS

EDUARDO ALVARADO LOPEZ (24), of America Sanchez, P.O. Box 3246, Guayaquil, Ecuador, is a member of the local Jewish community and would like to correspond in English or Spanish with young Israeli Jews.

HARUKO OKAMOTO (23), of 1-47-2 Ushidate, Nakagawa, Nagoya, 454 Japan, is a Japanese woman married to a Singaporean. She would like to correspond with young Israelis of her age.

הכרזה מן הלאה





## Ideas & Trends

# A Surprising Muse For the Stage: Science

By EDWARD ROTHSTEIN

"YOU cannot stir things apart," observes a 13-year-old prodigy in Tom Stoppard's "Arcadia," which is playing in New York City. She points out that if you stir jam in rice pudding, you cannot unstir it by moving the spoon backward. "Do you not think this is odd?"

Indeed it is. It seems to violate a principle of simple Newtonian physics, that all motion is reversible and all stirring unstirring. And odder still is the idea that "Arcadia" and other recent theatrical events should encompass the weighty world of science at all. Nuclear fission, chaos theory and encryption procedures can sometimes seem to be replacing such familiar fare as love and death.

The prodigy of "Arcadia," whose name, Thomasina, echoes the author's own, goes on, for example, to ask even more tantalizing questions: What is the algebraic equation governing the growth of a leaf? And why can't an engine use the energy it produces to run itself? But the oddest thing of all is that she is asking these questions in 1809. She discovers fractal geometry — a study of peculiar curves with infinitely detailed parts — more than a century and a half before Benoit Mandelbrot. She senses the Second Law of Thermodynamics years before it was articulated. And she probably would have proved Fermat's last theorem long before its recent conqueror, if she hadn't come to an untimely end.

We are, though, entirely ready to accept Thomasina's visionary insights because Mr. Stoppard takes scientific ideas seriously. He does not treat them as heralds of a utopia or a sci-fi disaster. His characters consider them as if they had as much importance as matters of the heart, which, in Mr. Stoppard's world, they do.

### Sweet Mysteries of Science

This is a novelty indeed, even among today's relative spate of theatrical productions dealing with scientific and mathematical affairs. More often, such ideas on the stage (or screen) are treated as occasions for taking political and non-scientific positions. Stephen Paulus's "The Woman at Otter Crossing," which the Opera of St. Louis premiered last month, juxtaposed an idealized mysticism of Pueblo Indians with the far less appealing atomic-bomb activities of the Manhattan Project, tapping ready-made sentiments that identify death and overgrown rationality with Western science. Two recent plays, Hugh Whitmore's "Breaking the Code" and Kevin Patterson's "A Most Secret War," were about the mathematician Alan Turing, but they, too, chose to emphasize political ideas over scientific ones, placing Turing's homosexuality at the center of the dramas.

Even a more classic example like Berthold Brecht's "Life of Galileo," which contains descriptions of Galileo's astronomical observations and mechanical experiments, is primarily interested in Galileo's recan-

tation before the pressure of the Inquisition. Brecht wrote the play as the Nazis came to power and revised it after Hiroshima. In his strange view, Galileo's recantation betrayed the idea of a "science for the people," turning science on an abstract, ruthless path that led directly to the atomic bomb.

This harsh judgment of science is even more obvious in popular culture, where it is often seen as heartless and untrustworthy as the white-coated researchers in Steven Spielberg's "E.T." Science is chiefly seen as good for weapons building, oppression and self-destruction. The archetypal scientific sin is the creation of Frankenstein's monster (whose fictional life began during Thomasina's era). The alien DNA in the horror movie "Species," the recreated dinosaurs in "Jurassic Park," the many comic book characters who parade about as monstrous mutants, all attest to science gone awry. And while some devotees of "cyber-space" and its culture harbor a utopian view of cyber-

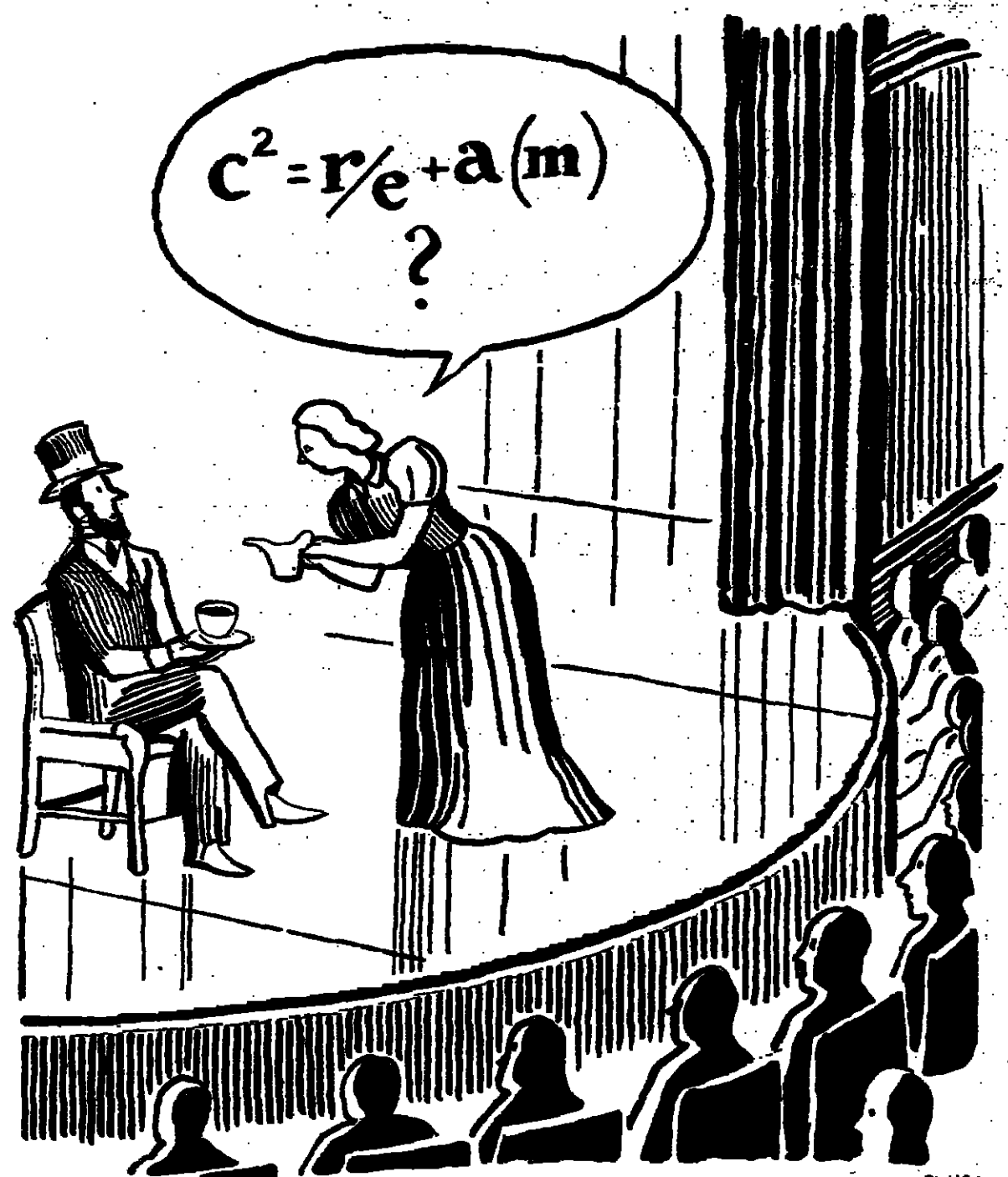
### Recent theatrical events commingle art with physics and mathematics.

progress, the more widespread views of the computer universe are dark and disturbing. The term cyberspace, after all, was coined by the cyberpunk novelist, William Gibson, as a feature of a nightmarish dystopia.

Mr. Stoppard has other ideas in mind. He treats science not as the ugly source of the Industrial Revolution and not as the poor cousin of literary research (which is mercilessly lampooned throughout "Arcadia") but as an important part of a culture's cosmology: its view of itself and its place in the world.

Thomasina's musings throw into relief the transformation in human consciousness taking place around her. The classical garden of her parents' estate is being remodeled in the latest fashion, its ordered proportions overturned by unpredictable wildness, its image of cultivated nature being replaced by untamable eruptions of landscape and fake ruins. Arcadia — an artificial classical paradise — is being supplanted by a world beyond reason and control, just as the artful simplicity of Newtonianism was being amplified by the more ornate theories of the French mathematician Jean Baptiste Fourier and the Scottish physicist James Clerk Maxwell.

There is, admittedly, less comfort in that near-modern world. Thomasina's radical questionings unsettle her brilliant tutor, Septimus; he sees them pointing to a cold, inhuman universe that will gradually disintegrate. He even ends his own life in madness and isolation, living in a hermitage on the remodeled estate, filling pages with calculations, trying to restore the order and clarity to the Arcadia he once knew. But that is not where Mr. Stoppard himself stops.



David Suter

Mr. Stoppard paints with a fairly broad brush and sometimes seems to be giving a course in the History of Ideas. Mr. Stoppard's science resembles Goethe's vision of it in "Faust": it is a combination of illumination and darkness, opportunity and danger. Mr. Stoppard answers fears of the new physics by having a young contemporary mathematician talk in wonder about the same phenomena that unthrive Septimus.

"The ordinary-size stuff which is our lives," the mathematician explains, "the things people write poetry about — clouds — daffodils — waterfalls — and what happens in a cup of coffee when the cream goes in — these things are full of mystery, as mysterious to us as the heavens were to the Greeks."

Mr. Stoppard's play may even be part of an increase in cosmological speculation during the past two decades, both among scientists and the public. Last year John Polkinghorne, a former Cambridge University professor of mathematical physics, tried to reconcile physics with his religious beliefs in "The Faith of a Physicist." And the physicist Stephen Hawking ends his

However, very few of them elevate the scientific above the political or personal.

best-selling book, "A Brief History of Time," with questions about "why it is that we and the universe exist."

"If we find the answer to that," Mr. Hawking writes, "it would be the ultimate triumph of human reason — for then we would know the mind of God." "Arcadia" stops short of such visionary pronouncements, but it gives an artful glimpse of modern modes of thought coming into being. In Mr. Stoppard's well-stirred mind, science finds too rare a home.

### Does Architecture Kill?

## An Awful Milestone for the Golden Gate Bridge

By JEFF STRYKER

SAN FRANCISCO  
THE chief engineer of the Golden Gate Bridge, Joseph B. Strauss, predicted that his master work, finished in May 1937, would be "practically suicide-proof."

Mr. Strauss has been proved wrong a thousand times over — or thereabouts.

The world's most beautiful bridge is, alas, also a suicide shrine, a powerful lure for those not content with merely shuffling off this mortal coil. The bridge acts as what tort lawyers would call an "attractive nuisance," a magnet to those inclined toward self-destruction, including many who might not otherwise kill themselves.

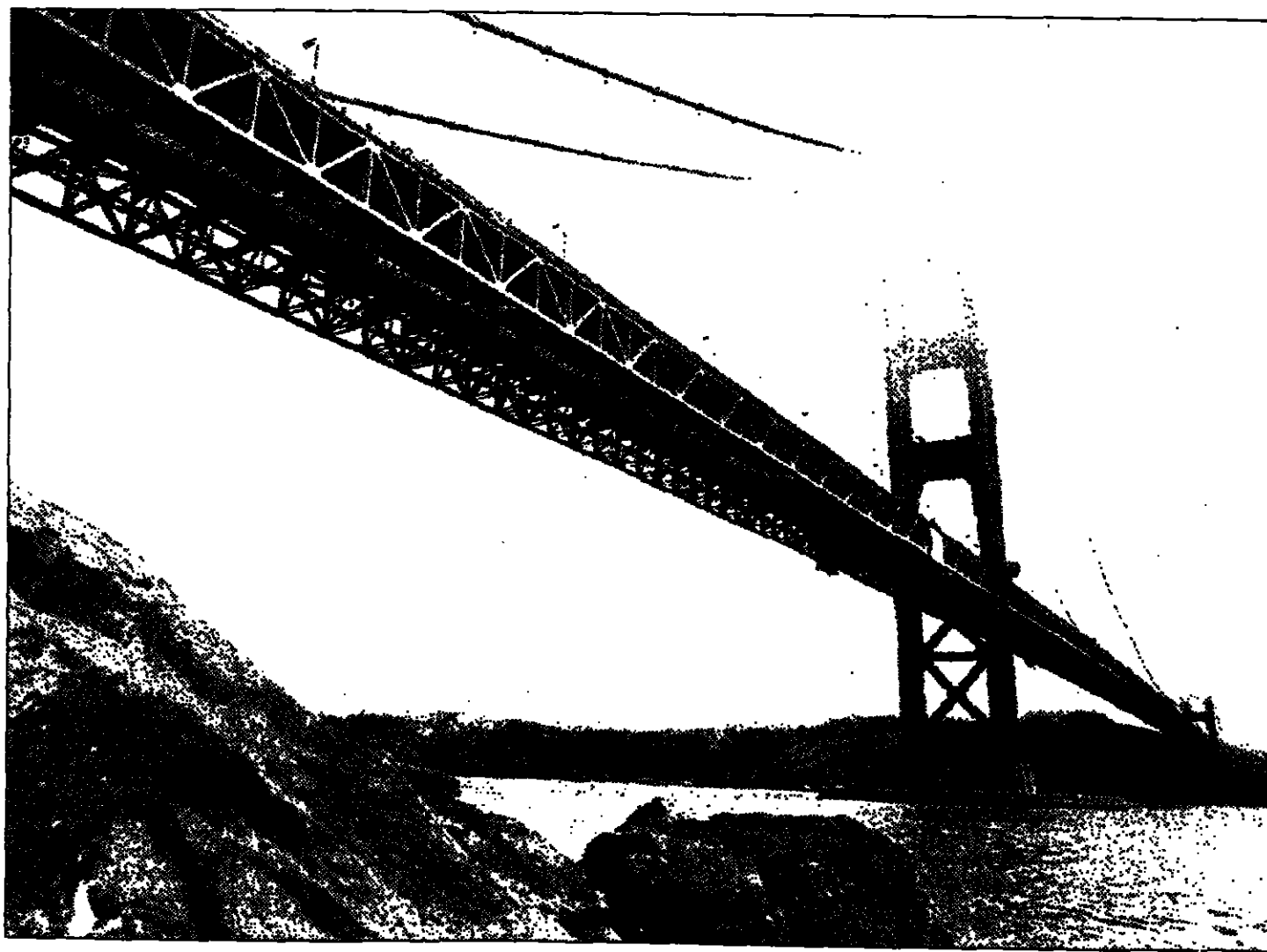
### A Grand Opportunity

Any fan of detective novels will tell you that murder requires both motive and opportunity. Suicide is no different. Much of suicide prevention is concerned with reducing opportunities for suicide, cutting down on what epidemiologists call environmental risks, like loaded firearms and ledges without rails. The Golden Gate is one hulking monster of an environmental risk, looming some 250 feet over the churning waters.

It is not the only architectural marvel to draw the suicidal. In the 1930's and 40's, 16 people leaped to their deaths from the Empire State Building; finally, an insurmountable fence was put on the observation tower. Should the Golden Gate be fixed, too? That question has been debated for a half century, pitting esthetics against economics, autonomy against paternalism. The debate is at once both practical and profoundly philosophical. Can a barrier be erected that won't be ugly? Is it always right to try to stop adults who wish to commit suicide?

The Golden Gate Bridge had been open for barely three months when the first suicide took place. Harold B. Wobber, a 47-year-old bargeman, took a bus to the bridge, along the way befriending a vacationing college professor from Connecticut. Together they strolled across the 1.6-mile span. Mr. Wobber tossed his coat and vest to his new acquaintance and said: "This is where I get off. I'm going to jump." The professor grabbed Mr. Wobber's belt, but he slipped free and leapt into the San Francisco Bay. Today, the grim tally approaches 1,000. The California Highway Patrol refuses to assign a number to any individual death, because they see the countdown as a bit of a lure itself. The official numbers are murky.

Jeff Stryker is a health policy analyst.



Epidemiologists call the bridge an opportunity for suicide. Since 1937, about 1,000 people have jumped to their deaths.

anyway, and there are probably scores or even hundreds who have been swept anonymously into the Pacific. So the chance of accurately identifying No. 1,000 would be like trying to name the trillionth customer at McDonald's.

The San Francisco Public Library maintains a sad file of yellowed newspaper clippings on Golden Gate Bridge suicides. Front-page attention is reserved for the rich or famous, the oldest (87) or youngest (5), or those leaving the strangest notes. (One person left this explanation: "Absolutely no reason, except I have a toothache.")

Not all the dramas are neatly resolved in a few paragraphs. In June 1948, the 100th fatal leap was reported. A handbag was

found belonging to one Dianne Black with a suicide note inside addressed to her husband, Lowell. A few days later, local papers reported that Mrs. Black had called her husband to say she was safe, that she had, as the papers put it, come "back from the dead."

### Burial Instructions

The century notoriety then shifted to Fortunato O. Anguiano of Mexico City, a 53-year-old dishwasher who left a note requesting, "Just bury me in my own land, the one you people take away from us."

After what was believed to be the 499th suicide, in 1973, 14 people vied for the distinction of becoming No. 500, including one who was wearing a T-shirt emblazoned with "500." All 14 were dissuaded or thwarted.

But finally, Steven Houg, a 28-year-old resident of a Haight-Ashbury commune, eluded bridge workers and jumped. His note pleaded: "Do not notify my mother. She has a heart condition."

In 1973, local TV stations trained cameras on the bridge 24 hours a day, in an unsuccessful attempt to record the 500th leap. And that was before "Hard Copy" or "Inside Edition."

Now, bridge officials are understandably wary of a countdown to 1,000.

The milestone deaths have been occasions for eloquence about the siren call of the

bridge as well as excuses for highfalutin speculation. The fact that "virtually every person jumps ... from the side facing land, and people" rather than from the side facing the ocean was cited as a "sociologically diagnostic fact" in a 1991 letter to The New York Times Book Review. A subsequent letter dismissed this as "sociobabble," and gave a more prosaic (and likely) explanation: the side facing San Francisco is more frequently open to pedestrians.

Some ideas for stopping suicides have been downright bizarre. In 1948, for example, after the death of a Hollywood stuntman who had planned on surviving his jump, a law against committing suicide from the bridge was proposed.

Some proposals have incorporated reverse psychology. A Maine woman suggested that a diving board, a hook for hanging one's jacket and a mailbox for suicide notes would "remove the drama and make bridge suicides look silly."

Over the years, barriers have been tested, but no single design has garnered much support. Generally, economic and esthetic considerations have trumped public health concerns.

Opponents of barriers (the majority, according to opinion polls) believe that no type of structure would really work, that those deterred from jumping would simply find other means to self-inflicted ends.

### Well-Chosen Words

Yet many who commit suicide are in the grips of a transitory depression. For them, a well-chosen remark can make all the difference, though a comment that saves one jumper may be another person's taunt. In one instance, a bridge policeman threatened, "Come down or I'll shoot!" and the would-be jumper obediently clambered from his perch. On another occasion, a patrolman taking a similar tack said to a man standing on the bridge's rail, "Ah, go ahead and jump, see who cares." On cue, the man jumped. The strut broke his fall.

Bridge workers and highway patrol officers say that for every person who leaps, two are talked out of it. And of those who are dissuaded, apparently very few go on to commit suicide by other means.

One Golden Gate Bridge survivor defined suicide as a permanent solution to a temporary problem. But it was Edwin Smeidman, a professor emeritus of sociology at the University of California at Los Angeles, informally known as the dean of "suicidology," who best captured suicide's tragic logic. "It is not a thing to do while one is not in one's best mind," he said. "Never kill yourself while you are suicidal."







# The World

## Remember the British Voter?

By RICHARD W. STEVENSON

**T**O David Ayres, a real estate agent in this town 30 miles east of London, the debate within the governing Conservative Party last week had an air of unreality about it, as if he were watching a parallel political universe. Not that Mr. Ayres was entirely uninterested. (The Tories were bickering over whether to dump John Major as Prime Minister; as it turned out, they didn't.) But above all, Mr. Ayres has come to believe that the Tories, after nearly 16 years in power, have simply lost touch with the electorate.

Mr. Ayres' interests run to whether the Government will improve its crime-fighting policies, raise educational standards, halt the decline of the national health service and restore economic confidence. Instead, he complains, the Conservatives seem fixated on their own divisions over dealing with the European Union — and panicky at the prospect of losing to Labor in the next general election, which must be held by April 1997.

"The Tory party has been in power so long that they don't care," he said. "They're insulated from what's happening in the real world."

What is happening in the real world of Britain today is, of course, a matter of perspective. But in Basildon, a town of 160,000 that is widely seen as a barometer of the nation's political mood, indications are that Mr. Ayres speaks for many.

During the 1980's Basildon became emblematic of towns across Britain where the working classes became prosperous and literally bled into the free-market policies championed by Margaret Thatcher, Mr. Major's predecessor as Conservative Prime Minister.

But today there are other concerns: that

### What the Voters Want

Percentage of Britons saying their next general election vote would be influenced "a great deal" by each issue.

Unemployment	50%
Law and order	49
Health care	49
Education	49
Managing the economy	42
Taxation	28
Housing	28
Protecting the environment	28
Europe	26
Defense	16

From a survey conducted by Mori for The Times of London in which 1,921 adults nationwide were interviewed by telephone June 23-26.

The New York Times

law and order is breaking down, that health care and education have been short-changed by tight spending policies, and that what was once seen as a turnaround in the nature of the British economy under the Conservatives may have been no more than a speculative property boom that went bust.

Nationwide, the polls show the Conservatives trailing Labor by around 30 points. That makes Mr. Major one of the most unpopular prime ministers since polling

began, even as his party remains deeply split over how much sovereignty to cede to the European Union.

"The Tory party is seen as divided, as willing to promise anything to win votes and as not understanding the problems facing Britain," said Robert M. Worcester, chairman of MORI, a polling company. "That's not a strong hand to fight an election with."

Mr. Major is defending the Conservatives as having brought about a strong economic recovery and having improved education, health care and other services. Labor, which has moved from the left to the center in recent years, remains untested by the rigors of a campaign, and so far has benefited mostly from not being the Tories. But however strong a challenge Labor and its new leader, Tony Blair, mount, Mr. Major has a big job ahead in this town.

Indeed, the mood in Basildon has undergone a tremendous swing in recent years. In the 1980's, responding to Mrs. Thatcher's push to make Britain a nation of homeowners, the local council sold publicly owned houses to their residents on attractive terms. With the big factories that anchored the local economy running at full steam and developers throwing up office buildings and a glittering new mall, Basildon had an air of confidence, and its voters turned solidly in favor of the Tories.

Even after the onset of a deep recession and a collapse in the housing market, Basildon voted Tory in the general election that kept Mr. Major in power in 1992. But now, although the economy has come back, the housing market has not, leaving many of those who bought homes in the last decade with mortgages bigger than the value of their houses.

At the same time, crime, or at least fear of it, has been rising, and residents believe the quality of social services has declined. To the extent that anyone in Basildon appears concerned with Europe, it is less a pocketbook issue than one of national identity: Are we closer to the United States or to Europe? Could we still use the Queen's picture on a common European currency?

In local elections in May, Tory councilors lost all seven of the seats they were contesting in Basildon, putting it in line with a nationwide rout of the Tories.

"The Tories can't talk about their policies because they haven't got any policies,"

### As Tories bicker over leaders and ties to Europe, the electorate fears crime and falling property values.

said Mary Pearce, an elderly resident of a neat neighborhood of brick-faced houses. "They're just sitting back, not thinking of the people. It's all about profit."

A young mother chatting with Mrs. Pearce, who would not give her name, piped in: "The Tories always say there's no money for hospitals, but when they want to go fight a war, the money's always there."

In his real estate office, Mr. Ayres said he sees it all: the growing numbers of unwed mothers who come in needing rental apartments that will be paid for by welfare, the racial tension that comes with a growing minority population, the families stuck in homes they can sell only at big losses, working people who feel no job is safe.

Mr. Ayres, who said he was a fan of Mrs. Thatcher, said that for all his disillusionment with Mr. Major's Government, he is not sure Labor would do any better. So he is still undecided about how he may vote.

"There's a lack of a feel-good factor here," Mr. Ayres said. "When you were a kid, your mum would say that if you were good you could have a sweet. Well, there's no sweets in the equation anymore."

"My view is pretty bleak, and here's why," he continued, jabbing his finger into the front page of the local newspaper. "This story says, 'Local Jeweler Shot.' And then I look at the real estate news, and the stories say, 'Rents Stay Depressed' and 'Will Land Values Slump?'"



Nelson Mandela, on an Asian visit, met Japan's Emperor Akihito last week.

## Everyone's Too Busy To Be Africa's Leader

By HOWARD W. FRENCH

**I**F continents placed want ads, Africa's current listing might read something like this: Needed, economic power center with strong political commitment to the African neighborhood and healthy democratic instincts, to help build continental prosperity.

But there would be a problem: Nobody would be applying for the job, even though the continent is not without candidates whose résumés are available.

Since their own rivalries quieted, it is obvious that the United States and Russia have lost virtually all interest in helping the continent build a future.

More surprising, perhaps, nobody in Africa is stepping forward to fill the vacuum — even as slaughters unfold, elections are stolen, human rights are trampled and millions of lives are blighted by the prospect of perpetual misery in various corners of the continent.

### Reluctant Giants

For a long time now Nigeria and South Africa have stood out as the most natural respondents to Africa's call of distress. But Nigeria, which until recently openly aspired to continental leadership even though it has never been successful at maintaining a democracy, has now stepped completely into the shadows. And South Africa seems reluctant to pick up the role.

On the surface, the two countries could hardly seem to share more sharply contrasting fortunes: Nigeria is locked in a revolving door of military dictatorships that have sunk it in deep decay even as South Africa rises powerfully on the wings of an expanding economy and the global prestige of President Nelson Mandela.

But on the continental stage, both remain giants who anchor the northern and southern regions of black Africa, respectively. And to the distress of many African intellectuals, both seem either unwilling or unable to fulfill their leadership potential.

"If you look at Asia or Latin America, you can see the contours of a continental vision," said Makau wa Matua, a Kenyan who is director of the Human Rights Program at Harvard Law School. "But with a Nigeria that is collapsing and a South Africa that is uncertain of its continental destiny, you have no one to articulate any kind of continental vision. There are no targets, no common objectives and no one to emulate anymore."

Increasingly since the death of apartheid, economic influence has been emanating from South Africa's entrepreneurs — they are making investments abroad, building communications headquarters and forging rail links with their neighbors — and someday, it is clear, this is likely to translate into political influence. Similarly,

Nigeria's current torpor has not stilled its neighbors' yearning for a more responsible government there, if only because Nigeria represents the region's largest commercial market and its political turmoil is the greatest threat to regional stability. So there is reason to think both countries will be under pressure to assume political leadership someday — to become the voices that work for economic growth and integration, promote human rights and encourage honest election practices.

The point is that they are not doing so now. And African intellectuals say they are as shocked by Nigeria's demise in this role as they are disappointed by South Africa's reluctance to fill it. Almost since attaining independence from Britain in 1960, Nigeria, the continent's most populous country, with 100 million people, sought to project its power and influence. And during the last two decades, when it was taking in as much as \$60 million a day in oil revenue, it pursued a sort of checkbook diplomacy that clashed strikingly with prevalent images of Africa as a helpless beggar continent.

Nigeria helped underwrite the struggle against apartheid in South Africa and sent troops to places like war-torn Liberia, footing a \$2 billion bill for peacekeeping efforts there. And when the man who was then Foreign Minister, Bolaji Akinyemi, spoke in 1987 of Nigeria becoming the defender of black people the world over and obtaining nuclear weapons, many might have worried, but few laughed.

Mr. Akinyemi's fortunes sadly mirror those of his country. Today he is in exile in London, where he lobbies against the dictatorship of Gen. Sani Abacha and sounds a note that reflects the scarcely concealed jealousy of much of his country's political elite over South Africa's ascendancy.

"In South Africa, the economy, the civil service and the military are still dominated by whites who would object to their country taking on greater commitments in Africa," Mr. Akinyemi said. "Nigeria is the only country that has the historical vision to play that role."

### Deeper Isolation

But Nigeria's oil revenues are now down to \$9 billion a year from \$22 billion a few years ago because of a combination of mismanagement and falling prices. Meanwhile, under General Abacha, the military's unabashedly venal and power-obsessed brand of politics has thrust Nigeria into deepening isolation. So few people are holding their breath.

South Africa's recent trajectory is almost the exact opposite of Nigeria's. Each month, new business deals spread the country's economic tentacles wider. Meanwhile, Africans by the thousands who are sick of arbitrary rule and economic stagnation are streaming to the new promised land, not just as squatters from war-devastated neighbors like Mozambique, but as professors, doctors, lawyers and businessmen from faraway West and East Africa.

But Mr. Mandela seems to want none of the continental leadership franchise. Voting with his own feet, in a gesture that was widely noted around Africa, he chose to prepare for a trip to Asia last week rather than attend an annual Organization of African Unity summit meeting in Ethiopia, where the main order of business was peacekeeping and conflict resolution.

"South Africa has been far too timid in sounding its voice and condemning human rights abuses elsewhere in the continent," said David Welsch, a professor of political science at the University of Cape Town. "We are acting out of an outmoded African view of solidarity with the continent that is being abandoned everywhere else. And in the meantime we are wasting a tremendous opportunity to use our newfound prestige as a force for change."

For Mr. Matua, however, South Africa's rise to political prominence on the continent will naturally follow the country's own political consolidation and spreading economic influence. The only question, and it is a major one, is whether this will all happen quickly enough to make a difference in arresting the slide toward disintegration in countries in every region of Africa.

"Mandela does not want to be seen by his peers as the child who was born yesterday who is preaching to the elders," he said. "South Africa is bound to settle into Africa; after Mandela passes from the scene, his successors will inevitably pursue a more aggressive policy."



Nancy Carpenter

## Sinister? U.N.'s Simply in the Dark

Continued from page 1

from American textbooks. So a mirage of blue-and-white tanks can loom easily behind a United Nations sign declaring Yellowstone a "world heritage site." Sinister black helicopters bringing a new world order — order? at the U.N.? — are spotted over towns and farms. Some United Nations officials say they have taken to subscribing to hate literature just to keep abreast of thinking in the enemy camp.

"Who is this Boutros?" a San Francisco man asked recently as Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali's motorcade went by. "We hear he's wanted in his own country, and that's why he stays here."

The United Nations cannot be absolved of blame for the predicament it faces. Organizationally, it seems incapable of projecting itself when its accomplishments are genuine, and then complains when journalists won't do the job for it. Obscurity can be attributed in large part to the attitude of many member nations accustomed to harassing the press and thinking of information as a tool to be wielded and manipulated

by the state, not a commodity to be shared. Mr. Boutros-Ghali, unlike at least two of his predecessors, has no American expert in his immediate entourage (which critics on his staff call an Oriental court) and thus, it seems, no effective intermediary to the United States.

### Security Increased

In the United States, a country where people like their politics personal, the United Nations is a faceless glass box peopled by mysterious foreigners speaking in tongues. United Nations officials and diplomats are perplexed and flustered.

"We don't have — thank heaven! — these sort of extreme right-wing fringe groups, much, in Britain," said Sir David Hannay, Britain's representative. Though Europe has isolationism and neo-Fascism, he said, "it doesn't take on such an anti-U.N. manifestation as here, perhaps because the U.N. is here, and not there."

The United Nations — with no standing army, tanks or even mess kits, only flags to lend to forces contributed by member na-

tions — is often as afraid of its American enemies as they are of it. Offices of the United Nations are getting many more phone threats. Security has been stepped up at headquarters in New York and for appearances by the Secretary General both in the United States, where he now gets a Secret Service detail, and abroad, where he has been targeted by foreign terrorists. His itineraries are no longer revealed in detail.

Mr. Boutros-Ghali, an Egyptian Coptic Christian married to an Egyptian Jew and an architect of the Camp David accords with Israel, is on virtually every militant Islamic group's death list. Even if not all the hostility is American, the venue of a free society carries obvious perils. United Nations officials are convinced that the World Trade Center bomb could well have been delivered to them. One of the men arrested in the attack had taken a tour of the United Nations three times in a day.

Ambassadors and officials go to seminars to talk about the phenomenon of the United Nations' war of words and perceptions with America and what to do if Congress really pulls enough financial support

to cripple the organization. Ernst Sucharipa, Austria's representative, said Europeans are beginning to grumble about being the only fools who pay their share, and on time. "Why should we be the good guys?" he said. Add to that some exportable paranoia about World Government and Europe might also become a problem.

### Outreach

Michael Stopford, the British director of the United Nations information center in Washington, is on the radio talk-show circuit grappling regularly with American fears and trying, as he says, "to understand the special American perspective on life a long way from Washington and New York." Surprisingly, Americans respond reasonably once they hear him out, he said.

"The real red-flag phrase is world government," he said. "Immediately we have to say the U.N. has absolutely nothing to do with world government. The U.N.'s just there to help you with all the horrid problems of today. You have to reassure them that the U.N. is not an international ogre."







# The New York Times

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## A Middle East Milestone

Word from the long-running peace talks between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization is encouraging. The two sides have agreed in principle to begin a more ambitious phase of Palestinian autonomy that would change the map of Israel and the Middle East. Details could be worked out by the end of this month. The Israeli Army would then begin withdrawing from major West Bank cities, allowing Palestinians to organize national elections for an administrative council.

If these timetables hold, the Oslo peace framework signed nearly two years ago on the White House lawn would take a mighty step from promise to reality. By next year, remarkably, the overwhelming majority of Palestinians in the territories occupied by Israel since 1967 could be under elected Palestinian rule. In return Israel expects the P.L.O. to fulfill a commitment to eliminate the section of its charter calling for the destruction of Israel. Credit for getting matters this far belongs chiefly to Israel's Prime Minister, Yitzhak Rabin, and the P.L.O.'s chairman, Yasir Arafat, with useful encouragement from the Clinton Administration.

The plans could still collapse. Target dates have slipped repeatedly in the past. West Bank troop withdrawals were supposed to begin a year ago. New acts of terrorism could again paralyze progress. But both sides have demonstrated their conviction that moving forward is more important than endlessly negotiating over details.

Mr. Rabin, facing deep Israeli skepticism over security and approaching an election campaign against the more hawkish Likud bloc, has opted for a phased process. Under the agreement now being worked out, most of the main population centers of

the West Bank, like Jenin, Nablus, Tulkarm and Qalqilya, will soon come under full Palestinian control. Israeli forces will also withdraw from cities in the Jerusalem area, like Bethlehem and Ramallah, as soon as bypass roads are constructed for Jewish settlers. Joint security arrangements will be worked out for smaller Palestinian villages. The Israeli Army will continue to control open country areas, along with Jewish settlements and major connecting roads.

The hardest issues will not be taken up until a subsequent round of talks scheduled to begin next year. They include Jerusalem, which each side claims as its capital, the future of Jewish settlements and security arrangements for Hebron, a sensitive flashpoint where Jews and Arabs live side by side.

Mr. Rabin has taken pains to protect Israeli security interests during the next phase of autonomy. The deal remains one of giving autonomy to Palestinian population centers, not giving Palestinians large blocks of territory. But for all his tactical caution, Mr. Rabin has redoubled his strategic bet on peace.

Most Palestinians remain impatient for faster progress. But the substantive gains being negotiated in this agreement should reinforce Mr. Arafat's secular leadership. The more he has to show for his strategy of negotiation and compromise, the stronger he should be in containing Islamic terrorists.

Mr. Rabin and Mr. Arafat are unlikely partners. But the political bravery shown by the former Israeli general and the pragmatism of the former champion of Palestinian terror deserve the world's support.

## Who's Being Disgusting on AIDS?

It is no surprise that Senator Jesse Helms is seeking to inflame passions over the AIDS crisis and pit one American versus another in a fight over how to allocate Federal health funding. The pity is that Republican leaders in Congress have been slow to challenge him.

The North Carolina Republican displayed his customary malice in slowing action on a Federal funding bill for the care and treatment of people with AIDS. That bill, known as the Ryan White Care Act, would extend programs that currently allocate \$633 million for AIDS treatment around the nation, including some \$70 million in New York, mostly for outpatient care for uninsured people. This worthy legislation deserves passage despite Mr. Helms's maneuvers.

Senator Helms said he wanted to reduce funding for AIDS sufferers because they had contracted the disease through "deliberate, disgusting, revolting conduct." He also complained that AIDS is overfunded compared with heart disease and cancer, which strike far more Americans. He hopes to reduce spending on AIDS and "get some equity for people who have had heart trouble."

Such heartless yawning ill suits a Senator whose own elective behavior, in choice of foods or smoking, may have impaired his own health, leading to a quadruple heart bypass and valve replacement three years ago. Mr. Helms is also a shameless champion of the tobacco industry, whose products kill far more Americans than does AIDS.

Fortunately, most Americans are fair-minded enough to recognize that in health care, blame is not a civilized response. If it were, those who erode their health by smoking or drinking or overeating or wallowing in sloth would be denied care on the ground that they brought it on themselves. But when

people are sick and dying, they need help, not self-righteous condemnation.

The Senator is playing numbers games when he claims that AIDS is overfunded compared with more widespread diseases. That assertion is based on looking at funding only for research and prevention programs, where disproportionate spending for AIDS can be justified because it is a newly emerging, contagious disease that requires an accelerated response compared with long-established, chronic killers like cancer and heart disease.

But if one looks at total Federal funding, including money for treatment under Medicare and Medicaid, then AIDS (\$6 billion a year) trails far behind heart disease (\$38 billion) and cancer (\$17.5 billion). Those seem the most relevant numbers to any discussion of the Ryan White Care Act, which is, after all, a treatment bill, not a research or prevention bill.

Both houses are considering legislation to reauthorize the Ryan White Act. The Senate's version has been approved by the Labor and Human Resources Committee and has overwhelming bipartisan support. Its 61 co-sponsors include 38 Democrats and 23 Republicans. The House version is stalled in committee, apparently because of tensions over insurance and testing issues unrelated to Senator Helms's concerns. It should be brought to the floor for a vote.

What's lacking is strong leadership to counteract Senator Helms. The Senate majority leader, Bob Dole, may move his chamber's version of the bill, but right now he appears to be stalling as his Presidential campaign trolls for conservative votes. Surely it is time to end this gruesome posturing and provide needed care for the victims of this widening epidemic.

## The Whitman Effect

In political terms, Gov. Christine Todd Whitman of New Jersey has had a sensational first year and a half in office. With a recently enacted \$16 billion budget, she has cut income taxes as promised in two years instead of three, without shredding local aid or social programs. Small wonder that she is being talked about for the national Republican ticket. But these achievements are accompanied by genuine risks to the long-term financial health of the state. Looked at closely, Mrs. Whitman's fiscal practices reflect less of a Republican revolution in downsized government than the same old game of spending now and paying the price later.

The Governor's first year in office was marked by a reduction in annual payments to the state employee pension fund, which allowed her to implement the first phase of her promised 30 percent cut in the income tax rate. This page was critical of that move as certain to raise the state budget liability for pensions drastically in future years. But Mrs. Whitman persuaded the legislators, if not the bonding agencies, that the pension system was "overfunded" and that it was a matter of equity that current taxpayers not have to foot the bill for future retirement costs. She was unfortunately employing a dubious practice to which desperate governors and mayors across the country have been turning in these years of fiscal stringency.

This year, however, Mrs. Whitman has expanded the practice of incurring obligations without providing the means to pay for them. A multibillion-dollar transportation program is to be funded by new and newly refinanced bonds that are going to drive up the cost of debt service. It would have been much more courageous and fiscally sound for Mrs.

Whitman to level with the voters and say that this expense should be met by a modest increase in the state gasoline tax.

The Governor also "paid" for the tax cut by inflating tax revenue projections and by optimistically assuming that there will be savings from her privatization programs. In fact, efforts to reduce the size of the work force have lagged behind her initial plans, and the privatizations have not achieved any real savings at all.

But budgets are more than bottom lines, and Mrs. Whitman does deserve credit in key areas. She has responded to court orders by increasing state education aid to poor districts at the expense of wealthier districts, although an even greater effort will be needed if the demands of equity are to be met. Democrats charge that the small increases in school aid these last two years will drive up local property taxes, and many independent analysts agree. But it is too soon to tell if that will happen, and Mrs. Whitman is right to demand that local school districts do more to cut their own exploding administrative costs.

Even more impressive, Mrs. Whitman has resisted the impulse of Republicans in New York and elsewhere to try to cut welfare benefits. Her eloquent arguments that such cuts hurt families and children should be heard by fellow Republicans, along with her appeals for moderation on abortion and other social issues. But those looking for Mrs. Whitman to have a national impact should be watching the economic indicators carefully to see whether the gambles she is taking on taxes and budgeting end up costing taxpayers more money and hurting the state's future financial health.

## You Can't Cure Addiction by Willpower Alone

To the Editor:

"A Change in Governors Stalls Model Drug Program in Texas" (front page, July 4) quotes Emmitt W. Hayes of the Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse describing a "changing of attitudes" that is stalling the rehabilitation of criminals and potentially reinstituting "tougher punishment" to treat drug abuse in Texas prisons.

It is appalling that when there are so many studies and books about childhood development, trauma and behavior, an educated member of society believes addiction can be cured by "willpower" or "tougher punishment." At no time has punishment of itself cured a criminal.

An adult beaten as a child will often beat his or her own child. Adults whose childhood was rife with alcoholism, brutality, drugs, molestation, incest, physical cruelty or emotional abuse will inflict abuse on their children because they have not been shown any other way — and

they themselves have denied the pain the abuse caused them.

Abuse results in anguish, which is repressed if there are no supportive adults for the child to turn to. The addiction evolves as a means of coping. Addiction of all kinds — overeating, use of drugs, abuse of sex, abuse of alcohol — is a means for the child, and later the adult, to cope with denied anguish.

Gov. George W. Bush's claim that he overcame "heavy drinking" by "sheer willpower" indicates that while he may have drunk heavily, he was not employing alcohol the way alcoholics do. The very statement that Mr. Bush woke up with a hangover on his 40th birthday and quit as a result seems to indicate that he had not (in that case) reached for alcohol out of a desire to cope with anguish from childhood trauma.

To combat drug addictions, we must get to the root of what is causing the addiction. The therapist helps the individual acknowledge that his

or her experience was sad and that he or she did not deserve the abuse, and will thereby allow the individual to set it aside. Now the person will usually find that the addiction and the results of the addiction are more painful than the original trauma.

Negative reinforcement never works as well as positive reinforcement. Punishment and incarceration, while they may keep criminals off the street, cannot, by their family premise, cure the drug problem in prisons or society. KAREN ODDEN  
New York, July 4, 1995

### Many Kinds of Help

To the Editor:

You have done a great service by your attention to drug abuse in prisons (series, front page, July 2 to 4). As the head of a substance abuse treatment program in the South Bronx, I see those who leave prisons; or, if they are lucky, are remanded to treatment in lieu of incarceration. Therapeutic communities are one of our treatment programs.

Day treatment, methadone and outpatient services are available. However, the common thread with the population we serve, adult men and women, is the enormous need for concurrent assistance with other aspects of their lives — educational deficiencies, vocational guidance, family reunification.

Our most expensive treatment program, and those of other residential communities, costs about \$15,000 a year. The same period in a state prison costs \$40,000 — much more in New York City. Nonetheless, the Governor and Legislature have not recognized the importance of maintaining and enhancing the treatment systems in New York, one of the country's largest and most diverse.

It seems that as a society we prefer the more costly prison, the loss of properly directed talent and productivity, the higher cost of family breakup and foster care to the possibility of success through treatment. SANDRA RUIZ BUTTER  
Exec. Director, Vocational Instruction Project Community Services  
Bronx, July 5, 1995

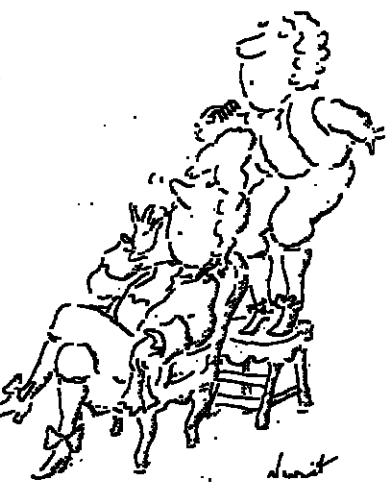
## For Macaronis, a Big Wig Was Just Dandy

To the Editor:

In "... And Called Him Macaroni" (editorial, July 4), on the roots of "Yankee Doodle," you ask whether a macaroni is in fact an "it" or a "him."

While it is true, as Lewis Maverick mentioned, that a "macaroni" in 18th-century parlance was a "dude" or a "dandy," it was the powdered wigs of these gentlemen that were their distinguishing feature. David Piper, in his book "The English Face," states that it is impossible to know just what heights the wigs of the macaroni soared, but that we do know that "powder, pomade and even plaster of Paris were the ingredients" of these spectacular arrangements. He goes on to mention that English cartoonists of the day had great fun with these hairstyles.

Thus it seems plausible that the term "macaroni" became linked to the hairstyle itself. If this is true, the line "and called it macaroni" makes perfect sense, as the feather



is meant to represent a style of hair associated with a style of life that had become an object of derision among late 18th-century British troops. MARGARET EARL COOPER  
New Canaan, Conn., July 6, 1995

## Why Couples Choose To Live Together

To the Editor:

Your article on the trend toward increases in living-together sexual relationships (July 6) omits some important research information that sociologists have been gathering on this topic for more than 20 years.

The large increase among younger people, in many cases, represents couples who have set a date to be married and have moved in together to save money until they do get married. The largest percentage increase, among older, divorced or widowed couples, represents not only a desire to save taxes but also reflects opposition, for a variety of reasons, from adult children of previous marriages.

In terms of actual numbers, these relationships are most frequent among low-income couples, with or without children. In these situations, the male is often unemployed or underemployed — working part time because he cannot get full-time employment. The female is also working part time, usually as a waitress, cashier or salesperson.

In these situations, and even among some more highly educated, economically independent women who were not described in the article, women tend to be more committed to the relationship than their partners. They are settling for less because they have no choice.

BETTY YORBURG  
Professor of Sociology  
The City College of New York  
New York, July 6, 1995

## Wildlife Volunteers Save the U.S. Millions

To the Editor:

"Of Cabbage Whites and Monarchs" (editorial, July 2) describes how thousands of volunteers are fanning out across the United States this month to survey migrating butterflies. The volunteers who perform this service provide the data to the scientists at the Interior Department's National Biological Service, whose analyses provide scientific bases for natural resource management and protection.

Alas, the services and data donated by wildlife volunteers will soon be prohibited if a few Western Republicans have their way. Led by Representative Wayne Allard of Colorado, the House Committee on Appropriations voted last week to prohibit the biological service from administering volunteer programs. The vote was the result of a deal involving Speaker Newt Gingrich, Ralph Regula of Ohio and Mr. Allard.

### AIDS and Ryan White

To the Editor:

I was saddened to read that Senator Jesse Helms is against the full funding of the Ryan White Care Act ("Helms Puts the Brakes to a Bill Financing AIDS Treatment," news article, July 5) because, he said, "deliberate, disgusting, revolting conduct" is responsible for those with AIDS. Does the Senator not know that Ryan White contracted AIDS through a blood transfusion, as did Arthur Ashe? JIM SMITH  
Staten Island, July 5, 1995

The volunteers help seriously handicapped children to fish; do research in wildlife disease control; monitor water quality; guide visitors at science centers, and make the breeding bird survey. They contribute more than 500,000 hours, saving taxpayers millions of dollars each year. To Mr. Allard, these birdwatchers and butterfly counters form the front line for an army of Federal regulators and enemies of private property.

Do Americans, regardless of political affiliation, really support this attack on volunteerism and our knowledge of the status of our wildlife? KATHLEEN ROGERS  
Wildlife Counsel  
National Audubon Society  
Washington, July 5, 1995

### The Twinkling TV's

To the Editor:

"National Parks Become a Place to Park R.V.'s" (July 2) hardly strikes me as front-page news. In the summer of 1974 my girlfriend and I hitchhiked cross-country, each night sleeping in a different campground, usually for about \$3. My most vivid memory of the trip is not the Grand Canyon or Mojave Desert, but rather our tiny orange pup tent pitched in an ocean of recreational vehicles in Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado.

Color televisions illuminated the night as John Denver's song "Rocky Mountain High" blared repeatedly from hundreds of stereo speakers. ROBERT ROSEN  
New York, July 2, 1995

## Rifle Association Can't Deliver on Promises to Life Members

To the Editor:

Re the June 26 front-page article on the financial situation at the National Rifle Association ("Aggressive Strategy by N.R.A. Has Left Its Finances Reeling"):

The large \$82 million "nest egg" referred to is not a surplus in any case. This "nest egg" did not arise from the accumulation of profits but largely from selling life memberships, which require an up-front cash payment. In return lifetime benefits in the N.R.A. (including a magazine subscription) are provided to this class of membership.

The N.R.A. has sold many such life memberships and, since it collects far more than it costs to provide services to life members, the excess appears among the association's assets as "investments" (marketable securities). This "nest egg" is being held to provide funds for future services due these life members.

The N.R.A. has spent or borrowed against this fund and therefore has little or no reserve left to provide the promised future services. This shortfall could be bridged by reduc-

ing future services to members, which the N.R.A. has been doing for some time.

Among the most obvious efforts to cut costs has been withdrawal as the national governing body for shooting, in connection with a controversy with the United States Olympic Committee over staffing and funding, and the reduction of the publication of the N.R.A. magazine(s) from monthly to bimonthly.

One might criticize the N.R.A.'s action on ethical grounds — spending funds on current activities that were accepted with the understanding that they would provide services over an extended period. This strategy can be seen as borrowing from the future to benefit the present.

The management of the N.R.A., to sustain the level of legislative activi-

ty, has adopted a strategy of spending itself nearly into bankruptcy. At some point soon funds will not be available to continue to provide services promised to life members. DAVID ROSS  
Houston, July 5, 1995

The writer, a life member of the N.R.A., is a former United States Olympic shooting team member.

### Drape Central Park?

To the Editor:

Steven R. Weisman (Editorial Notebook, July 3) would like to see Central Park decorated with 11,000 gates and apricot-colored fabric along 25 miles of walkways, but I doubt he has thought through what this would entail.

Anchoring the gates would require digging foundations, perhaps in pairs, demanding 22,000 holes to be filled with concrete.

As the work progressed, people would compete for space with backhoes and trucks for two weeks or more. The noise would be unbearable.

When all the walks were draped, the park would be useless except for short walks between the curtains. Has anyone estimated the time required for construction, display and removal? At removal there would again be an invasion of equipment. RICHARD B. SIEGEL  
Sunnyside, Queens, July 3, 1995

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have to sort out the truth from ideology or fraud or mere foolishness. □



## THEATER

## On Shakespeare's Odd Island, A Place for Puppetry

By CHRISTA WORTHINGTON

**P**uppets are people, too!" George C. Wolfe shouts into his rehearsal mike as he scoots around a raised circle of sand — the island of "The Tempest" — at the Delacorte Theater in Central Park. The director could be a boy in a sandbox, but he's really more like God. "You've got to invest them with personality," he exhorts the puppeteers.

On the stage, Shakespeare's nymphs "call'd naiads" have been lured from hiding by goddesses on stilts who wear hoop skirts as long as giraffes. Slowly, the little people, man-child puppets the size of 3-year-olds, emerge from all directions. Hooked onto harnesses, they hang from dancers' shoulders as if in invisible Smugglers; their ankles are strapped to their handlers' knees. When a human takes a step, so does a puppet.

"It's very American," Barbara Pollitt, the puppets' creator, says, referring to this "gotta dance" approach to Bunraku, the ultraconservative Japanese doll theater steeped in high tragedy. She has designed masks and puppets for Mr. Wolfe since 1990, when she worked on "Spunk," which was produced at the Public Theater. The thrill is to bend tradition, to reinvent ritual. But here, she's a little worried: these dancers are novice puppeteers, and Bunraku masters train from childhood.

In a drumbeat, the dancers break into a circular samba, a loose-hipped dance that you might expect from goddesses on stilts but that is startling from puppets who are bald and Buddha-like, with "old faces, as wise as monks," according to Mr. Wolfe's prescription. Bungee-cord ligaments flail to the beat.

"It's starting to look fabulously brilliant," says Mr. Wolfe. But Ms. Pollitt expresses maternal concern. She worries that her creations "lose their life" when the dancers turn their backs to the audience. She pantomimes tai chi movements as if to show what the puppets have in their hearts.

Shakespeare's valedictory play, now in previews, will open the 40th summer season of Shakespeare in the Park on Tuesday and play through July 19. It features Patrick Stewart as Prospero, the man of letters who wields absolute command over the island's creatures and their magical powers: Ariel (Aunjanue Ellis), the spirit of the wind, and Caliban (Teague F. Bougere), the grungy creature of the muck. Marooned in exile by his scheming brother, Prospero enlists his indentured subjects to exact revenge on his enemies in exchange for freedom. Larry Bryggman is Alonso; Bill Irwin is Trinculo and

Christa Worthington is a New York correspondent for the London newspaper *The Independent*.

**Using puppets is one way to 'negotiate trust' with an audience.**

John Pankow is Stephano, and the young lovers, Miranda and Ferdinand, are played by Carrie Preston and Kamar de los Reyes.

From the start of his career as a writer and director of stylized drama, Mr. Wolfe has made the arts of Bunraku, Noh and Kabuki theater from Japan and Indonesian shadow puppetry part of his home-grown festival. In play after play, including "Spunk," "The Caucasian Chalk Circle" and "Jelly's Last Jam," he has called upon puppets and masks to say the difficult thing, to reveal schisms of the soul, often self-hate. Through his work and that of directors like Julie Taymor ("Juan Darien") and Lee Breuer of Mabou Mines ("The Warrior Ant"), ritual performance art is no longer misunderstood in the West as being children's entertainment.

In recent years, two MacArthur grants and two Obies have been awarded to puppeteers, and Mr. Wolfe, the 40-year-old producer of the New York Shakespeare Festival at the Public, can take much of the credit. At the Delacorte, a wayward doll leans forward once too often and he warns, "Don't you know there was another puppet dying to be in this show."

Puppets and masks do what actors can't: occupy a netherworld between life and lifelessness. They negotiate rage and redemption. And they're very good at satire. They strike a pose, the Kabuki freeze frame that is part of Mr. Wolfe's theatrical phrasing, fixing emotion in its dramatic pause.

"As soon as you put a puppet on a stage, everyone's focus goes for it," says the 39-year-old Ms. Pollitt, a designer, performer and composer who has worked in puppetry and masks for 20 years. "There hasn't been a vocabulary for this in American theater, among professionals, that is, George has been able to have an inherent sense of what that dynamic means, and how to use it brilliantly."

For Mr. Wolfe, using puppets means he doesn't have to "negotiate trust" with the audience. "They control up a childlike response," he explains. "If people see something that has a purity of shape, they surrender to it, even in very cynical communities. If it's done with mastery, it can create a sense of wonder."

It can also serve as a sort of exorcism. Following Mr. Wolfe's conception, Ms. Pollitt has made masks and puppets that allow for "singing and dancing about horrible things in a way that is Brechtian but still palatable," she says. For example, in "Spunk," a homage to Zora Neale Hurston's fiction that was



The puppet and mask designer Barbara Pollitt and her associate Stephen Kaplin working on the nymphs for "The Tempest."

written and directed by Mr. Wolfe, a black actor wearing a white mask over his eyes remarked, at a bleak moment, that "nothing worries these darkies."

In 1991, Ms. Pollitt was nominated for a Drama Desk Award for her contribution to Mr. Wolfe's "Caucasian Chalk Circle." Thelma Davis's adaptation of the Brecht play shifted the story to a place much like Duvalier's Haiti, and 30 masks and a dozen puppets drew a portrait of evil. Ms. Pollitt designed freakish arm attachments for the leading actress to animate the reach of her greed. And in 1992, "Jelly's Last Jam" mined the unconscious of the Broadway musical with masks of high-caste Creoles and two-faced minstrels, custom-fit over dancers' heads.

"The actors have to yield," says Ms. Pollitt. Some see a mask as a key to their character; others find that it makes them feel out of control. "They can feel upstaged by a puppet and get mad."

Mr. Wolfe wanted to make sure that "The Tempest" was, above all, an actors' piece. He at first wanted to cast children as the nymphs, but puppets proved more appropriate. "We can't be front and center all the time," Ms. Pollitt says. "But when we are onstage, you can't escape the fact." Other contributions to "The Tempest" by Ms. Pollitt are a Harpy with a 36-foot wingspan, on bamboo poles, and shaggy-dog shadow puppets made of cardboard and gauze.

The arts of ritual performance

have come to act as glue for the many parts of post-modern magic-realist theater. All it takes is an eye — a window on the soul — to make emotional contact. "The minute you put a pair of eyes on something — it can be a pot lid — it lives," Ms. Pollitt says. And shield the eyes of puppeteers onstage and they "disappear" from the drama. In Bunraku, four-foot-tall puppets are manipulated in the audience's view by three puppeteers clad in black whose faces are concealed. In "The Tempest," the puppet handlers are made "invisible" by black fringe over their eyes.

"The appeal of puppetry has to do with the multifaceted nature of it," says Ms. Pollitt, who lives with her husband, the composer R.L.P. Hayman, and two small sons in Rockland County. "I can sculpt, paint, conceive, direct and perform. It's a very

kind of Renaissance man-type profession."

She trained at the University of Connecticut, the O'Neill Theater Center in Connecticut and the Institut de la Marionnette in France, and is a dalang, or shadow-puppet master, the title of which carries the weight of priest in Indonesia. The quality of her puppet sculpting first caught the eye of Ms. Taymor, whom she worked with for 10 years. In a rare honor for a Westerner, Ms. Pollitt was second puppeteer to the Bunraku master Tamamatsu Yoshida in Mr. Breuer's "Warrior Ant," an extravaganza that opened the Brooklyn Academy of Music's Next Wave festival in 1988 and elicited the first cha-cha and sexual climax from a Bunraku puppet.

"The Tempest" is a magic-realist dreamscape that has tempted avant-gardists of the late 20th century

from Mr. Breuer to Giorgio Strehler. It makes the dangerous claim that all life is an illusion, that we are such stuff as dreams are made on. A political allegory, and a deeply philosophical fantasy, it addresses the colonization of the New World and the ethics of dominion. In its final acts of reconciliation, everything from the inner child to the plantation slave finds symbolic release.

For this deep kind of magic, Mr. Wolfe didn't want "Dorothy hocus-pocus," he says. His magic is anti-special effects: man-powered, hand-held theatricality. "We see the magic and that's what makes it magic, as opposed to trying to conceal something," he says. "I'm interested in embodying the power of the island by having imagery reflective of what people would, obviously call primitive culture, which is actually very sophisticated theatricality."

## INSIDE JOB

By NANCY NICHOLSON JOLINE / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

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## ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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# Liberty, equality get fraternity at councils

I have heard about family councils. What are they? How do they work? For what ages are they appropriate?

Esti Cohen, leader of parenting groups and supervisor of parenting-group leaders, explains:

A family council is a regular meeting of the family for all members, even the youngest. The goal is to address all sorts of family issues, from summer plans to pocket money to chores.

It's a place to sort out problems between family members and a place to make certain family decisions. Everyone is invited, but no one has to come. It's actually important that parents don't try to persuade their children to attend.

Everyone is allowed to bring up whatever he wants - but people can bring up only issues that affect them. Everyone is entitled to express his opinions, and it is important to listen to one another.

For a child, a family is a miniature of the world. The way he lives in his family determines to a great extent his world view and the tools with which he will get along in the world.

If a child learns from an early age that through discussion, listening and sharing ideas, one can solve problems and resolve conflicts, he will use these tools when he fights with Moshe in kindergarten about who gets to play first with blocks.

Because problems can be addressed in a regular way in the family council, there will be less "putting out of fires."

## PARENTING

RUTH MASON

For example, if Yossi never does his chores, that problem can be brought to the family council, instead of daily family battles. You can say something like, "We have a problem. The garbage isn't being taken out."

If Yossi is present, others can hear why he doesn't do the job. He might say, "I hate taking out the garbage." Then maybe someone can suggest trading chores with him.

You'll need some ground rules to set an appropriate atmosphere. The parents initiate the idea of a family council.

Family members can decide how often to meet. Some like to meet for five minutes each day, while others prefer longer meetings once a month. The meeting needs to be held at a time that is convenient for everyone.

Everyone at a family council is equal. Parents don't have extra rights here. This should not be another situation in which there are big and little people.

Parents may not, for example, ask a family member to leave the meeting. If someone is disturbing, another family member can say something like, "I'm sorry, I can't hear you." If the disturbance is intolerable, anyone has the right to say, "I'm sorry, I can't hear anyone. I'm leaving."

At each meeting, the family chooses a facilitator for that

meeting, and it doesn't necessarily have to be Mom or Dad. The family council is not a place to bring up problems between the spouses or to make family decisions that should be made by the parents alone - for example, whether to buy an apartment.

Decisions must be arrived at by consensus, not by majority rule. Otherwise dissatisfied parties may sabotage a decision.

Some hints: Don't lecture, scold or criticize. (Don't say, "Yossi, you're not taking down the trash," but rather, "It's a problem for me that the trash isn't being taken down.") The first meeting sets the tone for the future.

It's important that parents arrive on time, that they don't call to the children to come or even remind them of the meeting.

You can tack up a note on the family bulletin board if you want that says: Family Meeting, Thursday at 4 p.m. in the dining room.

If a child is old enough to talk and listen, he is old enough to attend.

If all your children are under the age of three, you can have a five-minute meeting. If they're all under 10 years old, a 20-minute meeting would be appropriate. If your three-year-old starts to fidget, you can ask him if he wants to go and play.

The role of the facilitator: He begins the meeting; it doesn't matter if not every family member has come. He calls on people to talk and makes sure there are



no disturbances. The facilitator always speaks last. If someone hasn't shown up, plan the next meeting anyway. The family council is an organized way to

nurture the bond and closeness between family members and to tackle problems.

The long-term fruits are family relations of mutual respect and

good communications.

If you have a question about parenting, write to: Parenting, POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem.

# Killing goats for tortoises

## EARTHLY CONCERNS

DVORA BEN SHAUL

If the dwindling population of giant tortoises in the Galapagos Islands is to survive, then somewhere between 300,000 and 500,000 feral goats will have to be exterminated.

This is the conclusion of both Julian Fitter, recently elected chairman of the Galapagos Conservation Trust, and Craig MacFarland of the Darwin Foundation in the Galapagos.

Alien species exist almost everywhere, but on oceanic islands they are a special problem.

In the Galapagos, the feral goats - originally escapees from domestic herds - have reproduced to the point that they are denuding the islands and causing enormous losses of wildlife.

Birds, insects and small mammals have been affected, but hardest hit are the unique Galapagos giant tortoises that feed exclusively on specific types of vegetation in the cloud forests at the top of the island mountains.

On the island of Isabela the population of feral goats has reached 100,000 at the top of Mount Alcedo, one of the island's volcanic peaks. This population has grown from only 10 goats found there in 1982. Many were born there and some migrated to the area from surrounding parts of the island.

They are rapidly stripping the mountaintop cloud forest of its special vegetation, and the giant tortoises that inhabit the peak are starving.

Goats are a special problem because of their depredations and their extremely high reproduction rate and high rate of survival. They are hardy, and as there are virtually no animals to prey on them, almost all live to reach maturity.

Births among the feral flocks are frequent, and the average nanny produces two kids at a time and bears kids three and even four times a year. Sexual maturity is at about seven months.

Plans are to kill the goats by shooting them with automatic weapons from helicopters. This is considered preferable to an attempt to use poisoned grain, as was done in New Zealand last year to eradicate rats from critical areas of conservation.

It is feared the tortoises too might fall victim to the poison, since they also eat grain.

The plan does not have universal support because animal-rights groups in North and South America are mobilizing against the intentions of the conservationists to kill off the goats.

These activists say the area inhabited by the giant tortoises should be closed in with goat-proof fencing.

Conservationists, however, claim that this kind of fencing would be prohibitively expensive and almost impossible to maintain in such an area.

# Child support is a civil matter for religious court

## LAW REPORT

ASHER FELIX LANDAU

In the Supreme Court, sitting as a Court of Civil Appeals, before the president, Justice Meir Shamgar, the deputy-president, Justice Aharon Barak, and Justices Shlomo Levin, Dov Levin, Theodore Orr, Michael Cheshin and Zvi Tal, in the matter of Hamda and Amaal, appellants, versus Jonas, respondent (C.A.307/790).

HAMDA and her minor daughter Amaal, born out of wedlock, sued Jonas in the Haifa Shari'a (Islamic religious) Court for a declaration that he was Amaal's father and for her maintenance.

The court dismissed the claims on the ground that Islamic law only recognized paternity of a child born of a marriage or where, in certain circumstances, the father admitted the paternity. There was, therefore, no relationship whatever between Jonas and Amaal, even if the paternity were proved.

Hamda and Amaal appealed to the Shari'a Appeals Court which upheld the lower court's legal ruling. After another hearing in the lower court which carried the matter no further, they lodged their claims for the same relief in the Haifa District Court.

The District Court also dismissed their claims on the ground that the Shari'a Court had exclusive jurisdiction in matters relating to the personal status of Muslims, and they then appealed to the Supreme Court.

The appeal was brought first before the president and justices Dov Levin and Theodore Orr. They considered the leading precedent of Abu-Angela (S.T. 1/62), in which the court upheld the exclusive jurisdiction of the Shari'a courts in Muslim paternity suits.

However, citing the basic principles of Israel's legal system, now enshrined in sections 2 and 4 of the Basic Law: The Dignity and Freedom of Man of 1992, they expressed their unreserved rejection of a situation in which a child was precluded from proving who her father was. They therefore decided that the hearing be conducted before a seven-judge panel.

JUSTICE CHESHIN delivered

the first judgment of the court, noting that the attorney-general had also appeared, and had asked the court to depart from the Abu-Angela ruling.

He then cited Article 52 of the Palestine Order-in-Council of 1922-1947, under which "Moslem Religious Courts shall have exclusive jurisdiction in matters of personal status of Moslems ... who, under the law of their nationality, are subject in such matters to the jurisdiction of Moslem Religious Courts."

After considering Islamic law authorities, he said the Shari'a courts were clearly right both as to the principles of that law, and their exclusive jurisdiction in matters of paternity affecting Muslims; this differed, he noted, from the situation of Jews, since the rabbinical courts had no such jurisdiction. However, it was equally clear that this situation conflicted with the basic conceptions of our law, and was quite intolerable.

Citing the Succession Law of 1965 and 11 other Israeli statutes, he then developed the doctrine of the status or quasi status of "civil paternity," coexisting with "religious paternity."

In the eyes of civil law, a man's natural or biological child was his child for all purposes.

The same rule applied in England after the Family Law Reform Act of 1987, and in the US, where the Supreme Court had described denying children their rights just because their parents were unmarried as "illogical and unjust." No child was "illegitimate" under civil law.

He also pointed out that in the statutes cited, the question of paternity was incidental to the main issue.

Its solution was therefore within the court's jurisdiction under section 76 of the Courts Law (Consolidated Version) of 1984, which empowered the court to deal with incidental issues and also, therefore, make a declaration of paternity where the circumstances so demanded.

He also noted that Abu-Angela's case was no obstacle, since the question of "illegitimacy" did not arise there.

He then considered the application of section 3 of the Family Law Amendment (Maintenance) Law of 1959. Under that section, when a person is subject to personal (religious) law, the provisions of the personal law will apply regarding the maintenance of his minor children and those of his spouse.

In the absence of the application of personal law, the civil law as embodied in the above statute will apply.

The precedents, he said, revealed some difficulty in construing the above section in the context of the Jewish law of maintenance based on charity (*tzedaka*).

In the present case, however, it was simply clear that since Jonas was under no obligation, under Islamic law, to maintain Amaal even if his paternity were established, the civil law applied.

Justice Cheshin then considered whether, even if the civil law applied, Amaal's claim to maintenance was to be dealt with by the Shari'a court or the District Court. Under section 18 of the Maintenance Law of 1959, "Sub-

ject to the provisions of section 19, the competent court under this Law shall be the District Court." Under section 19, "(a) This Law shall not add to, nor derogate from, the jurisdiction of religious courts...; (b) This Law shall add to, and not derogate from, maintenance rights accruing under any law administered by a religious court, or under the personal law applying to the parties."

After a wide-ranging analysis of the above Law and several authorities including Forer's case (C.A.592/83, *The Jerusalem Post Law Reports*, p.26), he held that the District Court was empowered to deal with Amaal's claims.

Distinguishing the leading precedent of Omri (C.A.250/83), in which it was clear that Islamic law applied to all the parties, he stressed that in the present case there was no derogation from the Shari'a court's powers since Amaal's claims fell completely

outside Islamic law, and could never be considered by that court applying that law.

Citing Kardosh's case (*Selected Supreme Court Judgments* [English], Vol. IV, p.7), he also noted the principle that a statutory authority could not exceed the powers given it by the Law which created it.

Article 52 of the Palestine Order-in-Council, therefore, which established the Shari'a court's exclusive jurisdiction, could not be construed to include powers rejected by Islamic law.

It had been submitted, Justice Cheshin continued, that there was no reason why the Shari'a court should not deal with Amaal's claims, and in so doing apply civil and not religious law.

He held, however, that the maintenance Law clearly empowered the District Court to hear claims based on that statute, such as those now considered.

It was perhaps possible that the Shari'a court also enjoyed concurrent jurisdiction in this regard, but it was unnecessary for him to decide this point.

Justice Cheshin proposed,

therefore, that the appeal be allowed, and the case remitted to the District Court to be decided on its merits.

JUSTICE SHAMGAR concurred, adding that he was now fortified in his minority opinion in Omri's case (supra).

Justice Shlomo Levin also concurred, adding it would be strange indeed for the Shari'a court to apply civil law and make an order at variance with Islamic law.

Justices Barak, Dov Levin, Orr and Tal also agreed with Justice Cheshin.

FOR THE above reasons the appeal was allowed, the case was remitted to the District Court, and Jonas was ordered to pay the petitioners' costs in the sum of NIS 10,000.

Asaam Katib appeared for Hamda and Amaal, Avi Vanunu appeared for Jonas, and Efrat Barzilai, senior assistant state attorney appeared for the attorney-general.

The judgment was given on June 21, 1995.

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## BUSINESS &amp; FINANCE

MONDAY, JULY 10, 1995

## Shohat refuses to rule out tax hikes, spending cuts in next year's budget

FINANCE Minister Avraham Shohat yesterday did not rule out the possibility of spending cuts, tax increases or a combination of both in next year's budget, to deal with the country's ballooning balance of payments gap.

"We still don't know the framework of the deficit, spending and tax receipts," said Shohat following the first cabinet meeting on the 1996 budget. "I hope we will be able to lower the budget deficit without imposing decrees on the people."

Both Shohat and Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel refused to say whether next year's budget should be cut or taxes be raised to reduce public spending to help alleviate the growing balance of payments deficit, which both agreed is the major threat to the economy.

Frenkel even described the balance of payments gap as "a cloud that stands over the economy."

According to him, the gap will reach \$4.8 billion this year, compared with the Treasury's more optimistic estimate of \$3.5b. At such a level, the balance of payments deficit is likely to hamper economic growth, Frenkel warned.

Shohat and Frenkel were only willing to say that the problem requires reducing the budget deficit, without identifying the means to do it.

Frenkel told the cabinet that the balance of payments problem can only be addressed by means of a smaller budget deficit, as the other options — such as devaluing the shekel — would heat up inflation, while lowering interest

JOSE ROSENFELD

rates would only encourage consumption, which is the cause of the problem.

Shohat hinted, however, that the government may escape the dilemma of cutting programs or raising taxes, given that the economy will grow nearly five percent next year, so the budget deficit could be reduced by restraining spending below the rate of economic expansion.

Bank of Israel officials rejected that solution, pointing out that the deficit reduction that would result from such an approach would be insignificant. Although they would not mention by how much the budget deficit has to be cut, the officials insisted that the reduction would have to be significant.

Despite Shohat's uncertainty about the possibility of additional tax cuts next year, he clarified that the tax cuts that the Knesset already approved for September, amounting to an annual reduction of NIS 1.2b, will go into effect as planned.

Displaying their fundamental disagreement over the importance of reducing inflation, Frenkel called on the government to adopt a lower inflation target for next year as a means of assuring lasting economic growth.

By contrast, Shohat said economic growth, keeping unemployment from rising and maintaining conditions for successful immigrant absorption should remain the top priorities. A secondary consideration is reducing

inflation.

"I would not change in any way the order of priorities," Shohat said.

Shohat agreed that given the existing large budget commitments, it would be a challenge to lower the budget deficit. The government obligations include redeploying the army, implementing the Demobilized Soldiers Law, bringing up Arab child allowance payments to the same level for Jews, covering the full cost of the absorption basket and paying for the recovery program for the defense industries and the kibbutz debt arrangement.

Asked if it would be realistic to expect he will pull off deficit reduction measures in an election year budget, Shohat admitted that the government will face difficult decisions.

However, he added, "it is inconceivable that after dealing seriously with the problems that faced the economy in the past three years, we will adopt policies during an election year that will undermine our achievements."

"A responsible policy will be the best guarantee for the electorate to appreciate what has been achieved from all perspectives," Shohat said.

He called on his fellow ministers and MKs to help with the adoption of a restrained budget.

"Unfortunately, every MK has a magic formula on how to win the elections and each one pushes legislation that will help a certain sector of the population, forgetting that in the process it undermines the economy as a whole,"



Shohat: Tax cuts already approved for September will go into effect as planned. (Isaac Harari)

he said.

Absorption Minister Yair Traub came out against significant budget cuts and called instead for the government to fight tax evasion and the underground economy to reduce the balance of payments deficit.

He also criticized the Bank of Israel's attack against wage increases as the cause of inflation, noting that wages rose 3.3% in the past four years, while private

sector wages fell 3.2% during that period.

Nevertheless, during that period private consumption jumped 32%, out of proportion with wages.

Economics Minister Shimon Shetreet called on the Treasury to bring several options to the cabinet to deal with the balance of payments problem, including the possibility of a faster devaluation of the shekel.

## Palestinians cool to plan for customs union

JOSE ROSENFELD

A PROPOSAL to establish a customs union between Israel, Jordan and the Palestinians within 15 years was received coolly by Palestinian officials yesterday.

The proposal, prepared under the auspices of Harvard University's Institute for Social and Economic Policy in the Middle East, calls for eliminating all trade barriers between Jordan and the West Bank and Gaza over a five-year period.

Israel would also eliminate all barriers to Jordanian products during that period, while it would receive concessionary import duties for selected products.

By 2010, all barriers on Israeli exports to Jordan would be lifted and Jordan's tariffs on products from other countries would be brought to Israeli and Palestinian levels.

According to Robert Lawrence of the Kennedy School of Government, who organized the report, the customs union would enable eliminating the cumbersome provisions of a free trade agreement, which could be used to hamper free trade.

Palestinian Authority Trade Ministry director general Samir Huleila criticized the reliance on a customs union, saying that based on the experience with the Israelis the Palestinians are moving toward free trade agreements instead of a customs union.

He noted that both the Palestinians and the Jordanians rely heavily on customs as a major revenue base, while Israel is in the process of significantly reducing its tariffs.

Huleila also rejected Israeli politically-motivated import restrictions, which do not allow the Palestinians to import goods from countries that still boycott Israel — such as Saudi Arabia, Malaysia and Indonesia — even when it makes economic sense to do so.

Finally, he said Israeli product standards are currently too high both for Jordan and the Palestinians, who cannot even match them.

Everyone agreed, however, that the hardest nut to crack will be Jordan, whose economy is closed and will have to adjust the most under the proposal.

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

**Price of flour to go up 11.6% on July 15:** Finance Minister Avraham Shohat yesterday announced that the price of flour will rise 11.6 percent on July 15 following higher wheat prices. Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin — along with Shohat, Industry and Trade Minister Micha Harish and Agriculture Minister Ya'acov Tsuri — also decided that within a week they will propose to open the market to flour imports to reduce the monopolistic power of the country's flour mills. *Jose Rosenfeld*

**Makhteshim signs deal with Abbott Laboratories:** Abbott Laboratories, the US health-care giant, has signed a joint cooperation agreement with the Makhteshim group to distribute its Trichodex product worldwide. *Galit Lipkis Beck*

**Super-Sol has announced the opening of its fourth annual packaging prize competition.** Any product sold at the Super-Sol chain can be entered by the August 20 deadline. There will be five cash prizes of NIS 5,000 each, and a trip for two to Hungary will be raffled among all entrants in recognition of Super-Sol's current activity in the Hungarian supermarket field. Last year, 150 products competed in the competition. Winners will be announced in September. *Martha Meisels*

## IEC gives okay for private power suppliers

RACHEL NEIMAN

THE Israel Electric Corporation has taken one more step to contract out independent power suppliers.

IEC's board of directors met over the weekend to give management the go-ahead for issuing the tenders for private electric power production.

The tender will be issued "within the coming days," according to an IEC statement.

Small manufacturers are the target of the initial bid, the first in a series of contracts designed by the IEC and the Energy Ministry.

Those able to provide up to 10 out of a total 65 megawatts will

sell electricity to the IEC "at an agreed upon price."

It is expected that most small manufacturers will produce electricity from diesel-based generators and gas-turbines.

The IEC also hopes electric power might be provided from windmills.

After assessing the results of the first tender, the IEC will take bids on gas turbine power production of up to 200 megawatts. Next year a tender will be issued to those manufacturers using alternative power production, such

as solar energy.

Ten megawatts of power are already being purchased from Nordan Technologies from its facility at Erez junction.

The IEC is also currently negotiating with Ashdod and Ormat for the establishment of two power stations, producing 27 and 30 megawatts, respectively.

IEC's current production capability is 6,700 megawatts, a figure due to double within 10 years. Following the expiration of IEC's exclusive permit, other electric suppliers will be allowed to produce and sell up to 900,000 megawatts of power.

## Kibbutzim ask central bank to fire Hapoalim chairman

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

THE kibbutzim appealed to the Bank of Israel yesterday to fire Bank Hapoalim chairman Emmanuel Sharon, saying he concealed vital information regarding the bank's charging of illegal fees to customers' bank accounts.

The kibbutzim are demanding that Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel and Supervisor of Banks Ze'ev Abeles use their power to fire Sharon. The kibbutzim are also calling for the dismissal of Emmanuel Halperin, head of the kibbutz arrangement committee.

"Our demand for Sharon's firing is based on facts that were only recently revealed, showing that Sharon concealed informa-

tion he received in his former position as head of the kibbutz arrangement committee," the kibbutz headquarters said in an official announcement. "The information concerns the bank's charging of illegal fees. The information was concealed from the other committee members."

According to the kibbutz representatives, Sharon failed to reveal the information, even though he was aware of the significance of the findings on Bank Hapoalim's financial reports.

In related news, Agriculture Minister Ya'acov Tsuri appealed to Abeles to conduct an examination of the kibbutzim's and mo-shavim's very high interest rates on their debts.

Tsur said examinations already completed by professional institutions reveal that the banks apparently violated the law and charged the kibbutzim and mo-shavim very high interest rates on their debts.

**TENDER 9600/001**  
Rail Transportation System for Municipality Solid Waste  
The last date to submit the proposal has been postponed to:  
Wednesday, August 16th 1995, at 15:00 hours.  
There is no change in the other details.

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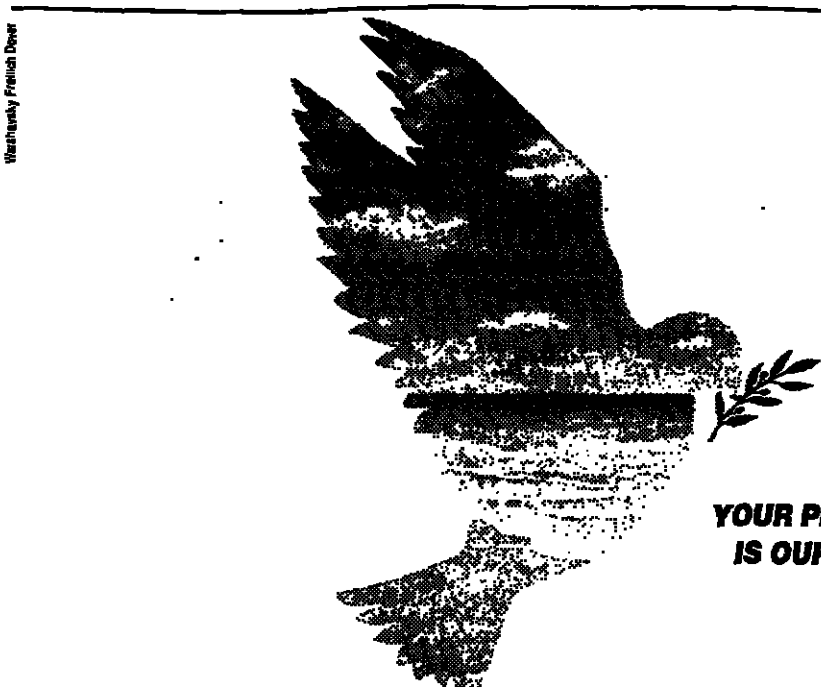
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## Maccabi TA gets easy European draw

BRIAN FREEMAN

MACCABI Tel Aviv has an easy path to the final pool of the European Club Championships this season, following the draw for the European basketball competitions in Munich over the weekend.

However, the other Israeli clubs participating in Europe will face a difficult task to reach their respective final pools.

Maccabi Tel Aviv, the defending league champions, received a bye in the first preliminary round of Europe's most prestigious tournament and are assured of an easy matchup in the second round.

Maccabi will meet the winner of the contest between Romania's Sibiu and Albania's Tirana. The first leg will be away on September 28, while the return leg at Yad Eliyahu is scheduled for October 5.

Israel's other entry in the club championships, league runner-up Hapoel Galil Elyon, has a much more daunting task.

In the first round, it meets Finland's Kavola (away on September 7 and home on September 14). If it wins, Galil must then face Iraklis Salonika, which finished in third place in the tough Greek league with a 20-6 record.

In that matchup, Galil would not have the home-court advantage, playing the first leg at Kfar Blum on September 28 and the return leg in Greece on October 5.

In the European Cup, State Cup holder Bnei Herzliya has a bye in the first preliminary round and must then most likely face Yugoslavia's Spartak Subotica

(which plays Romania's Cluj in the first round).

If that scenario holds, Herzliya will play the first leg on the road on September 26 against Spartak, which finished in fifth place in the difficult Yugoslavian league with an 18-10 record. The home game is scheduled for October 3, which will have to be changed due to Yom Kippur.

The chances for Israeli success in the Korac Cup look particularly grim.

Hapoel Holon plays Nicosia from Cyprus in the first round (September 6 away, September 13 home) and then must face Filodoro Bologna (September 27 at home and away on October 4, the evening after Yom Kippur). Bologna had a 23-9 record in the Italian league and finished fourth after Benetton Treviso upset it in the semifinals.

Hapoel Tel Aviv received a bye in the first round and must then play the winner of the matchup between France's Villeurbanne and England's Manchester (September 27 away and October 4 home). If it survives to the third preliminary round, the likely opponent would be Red Star Belgrade.

Maccabi Rishon LeZion plays Odessa from the Ukraine in the first round (September 6 away, September 13 at home). A victory pits Rishon against the winner of the matchup between Slovakia's Pezinok and Denmark's Brondby (September 27 away, October 4 at home). If Rishon reaches the third round, its likely opponent will be the formidable RIES Pilsen from Turkey.

WIMBLEDON (AP) — Pete Sampras used a devastating serve to defeat Boris Becker in four sets yesterday for his third straight Wimbledon title.

Sampras never faced a break point as he rallied after losing the first-set tiebreaker to overwhelm the former three-time champion, 6-7(7-5), 6-2, 6-4, 6-2, in 2 hours, 28 minutes.

Sampras became the first man to win Wimbledon in three consecutive years since Bjorn Borg won five straight from 1976-1980.

The second-seeded Sampras achieved his sixth Grand Slam crown with an amazing display of serving and power tennis.

The third-seeded Becker, playing in his seventh Wimbledon final 10 years after winning his first title at the age of 17, was virtually helpless against Sampras' rocket deliveries.

After another Sampras ace flew past him in the fourth set, Becker put his hand over his eyes and used his racket like a cane to impersonate a blind man.

Taken to duce only twice, Sampras hit 23 aces, won seven service games at love and took 91 percent of the points on his first serve. Sampras hit his first serve at an average speed of 116 mph, with a top delivery of 129 mph.

The return of serve was also the key. Sampras got back 60% of his returns, while Becker was successful on only 44%.

While Becker never earned a break point, Sampras had 16 break points, converting five times. He had nine return winners and 10 passing winners.

Becker served 16 aces but those were virtually erased by his 15 double faults.

There were no breaks in the first set, which was decided in the tiebreaker when Becker hit a strong backhand return that forced a volley error from Sampras.

But Sampras took charge when he broke Becker for the first time for a 2-1 lead in the second set. After hitting a backhand passing shot to get to 0-40, Sampras turned to the crowd and waved his arms to rouse the fans.

From that point on, Sampras was in complete command. He broke Becker in that game, again in the fifth game and served out the set with three aces.

Becker double-faulted three times while losing serve in the third game of the third set, while Sampras won three straight service games at love. Serving for the set, he hit four aces.

Sampras broke twice in the fourth set and served out the match at 30, with Becker hitting a forehand return wide to end the contest.

When the two met at the net, Becker gave Sampras a hearty handshake and a thumbs-up sign.

After receiving the runner-up trophy, Becker ran a lap around the Centre Court, waving and smiling to the fans.

Sampras received \$584,000, while Becker got \$291,000.

In the mixed doubles final, Jonathan Stark, US, and Martina Navratilova (3), US, defeated Cyril Suk, Czech Republic, and Gigi Fernandez (4), US, 6-4, 6-4.



POWER SERVE — Pete Sampras fires one past Boris Becker to take third straight Wimbledon title. (AP)

## Lofton steals the show

CLEVELAND (AP) — Kenny Lofton tripled twice, drove in two runs and scored twice — once by stealing home — as Cleveland overcame a three-run deficit and beat Seattle 7-3 on Saturday.

Albert Belle homered and Wayne Kirby tripled for the Indians, winners of 10 of their last 13 games. Seattle has lost five of six. Charles Nagy (7-4) pitched a five-hitter for his first complete game of the year.

Blue Jays 9, Athletics 6  
Athletics 6, Blue Jays 3  
David Cone struck out 10 for visiting Toronto in the first game of an ejection-filled doubleheader.

In the first game, Joe Carter and Devon White had three RBIs apiece and Paul Molitor hit a tie-breaking homer in the seventh.

### NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division			
	W	L	Pct.
Atlanta	42	25	.622
Philadelphia	38	29	.567
Montreal	32	36	.471
New York	25	43	.368
Florida	21	47	.304

Central Division			
	W	L	Pct.
Cincinnati	42	25	.622
Houston	38	29	.567
Chicago	32	36	.471
St. Louis	25	43	.368
Pittsburgh	21	47	.304

West Division			
	W	L	Pct.
Colorado	38	29	.567
Los Angeles	32	36	.471
San Francisco	25	43	.368
San Diego	21	47	.304

### AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division			
	W	L	Pct.
Boston	38	29	.567
Texas	32	36	.471
Baltimore	25	43	.368
New York	21	47	.304
Toronto	18	50	.261

Central Division			
	W	L	Pct.
Cleveland	42	25	.622
Kansas City	38	29	.567
Minnesota	32	36	.471
Chicago	25	43	.368
St. Paul	21	47	.304

West Division			
	W	L	Pct.
California	38	29	.567
Oakland	32	36	.471
Seattle	25	43	.368
San Diego	21	47	.304

SATURDAY'S NL RESULTS:  
Chicago 3, Philadelphia 1  
Pittsburgh 3, New York 2  
Colorado 5, Expos 3  
St. Louis 3, Florida 2  
Houston 3, San Diego 1  
Los Angeles 12, Cincinnati 2  
Atlanta 3, San Francisco 4

SATURDAY'S AL RESULTS:  
Cleveland 7, Seattle 3  
Detroit 5, Oakland 4  
Oakland 6, Toronto 3  
Kansas City 4, Detroit 1  
Baltimore 5, Chicago 2  
Minnesota 3, Boston 5  
New York 7, Texas 3  
California 1, Milwaukee 8

## Indurain grabs yellow jersey

SERAING, Belgium (AP) — Miguel Indurain again used the individual time trial to move to the front, winning yesterday's eighth stage of the Tour de France to grab the yellow jersey and head into the mountains over two minutes ahead of his main rivals.

Indurain, who has used the first time trial in each of the last four years as the springboard to winning the title, finished yesterday's 54-kilometer leg in 1 hour, 4 minutes and 16 seconds, only 12 seconds ahead of a surprisingly strong Dane Bjarne Riis.

The Dane led as late as with 5km remaining.  
"I missed the guts to finish it off," Riis said. "I didn't know I was that close."

Of Indurain's two main challengers in the overall standings, Swiss veteran Tony Rominger was 58 seconds behind in third place and Evgeni Berzin was fourth, trailing by 1 minute and 38 seconds.

EDMONTON (AP) — Topped by Bryan Berard, it was defense first in Saturday's National Hockey League draft.

But the Vancouver Canucks created the most excitement by completing a trade for Alexander Mogilny.

While the first-round picks followed form, the Canucks gave up their first-round pick, plus two players with little NHL experience, to snatch the high-scoring Russian forward from Buffalo.

Mogilny, who scored a league-leading 76 goals in 1992-93 and has 211 goals in a six-year NHL career, moved to Vancouver for center Mike Peca, who has one year of NHL experience, and defenseman Mike Wilson, who has none.

In addition, the teams exchanged draft

picks, with Vancouver's No. 1, 14th overall, going to Buffalo for the Sabres' fifth-round pick.

With the pick, the Sabres selected Canadian junior defenseman Jay McKee, one of nine blue-liners picked in the first round in this "Year of the Defenseman." The Sabres, who had two picks in the opening round, then selected Canadian juniors goaltender Martin Biron with No. 16.

The Maple Leafs, meanwhile, announced the acquisition of veteran defenseman Larry Murphy from Pittsburgh for Russian defenseman Dmitri Mironov and a second-round pick next year. In another trade, Los Angeles gave Washington two picks for next year's draft, including its No. 1, for Ukrainian forward Dimitri Khristich and goalie Byron Dafoe.

By that time, the NHL draft had established a couple of precedents. This was the first time that defensemen had been selected 1-2-3, and the first time since 1974 that a defenseman has been selected No. 1 overall in two consecutive entry drafts. In 1973, Denis Potvin was selected first by the New York Islanders and then in 1974 Greg Joly went to the Washington Capitals.

After the Ottawa Senators went for Berard, the Islanders picked Wade Redden and the Los Angeles Kings selected Finn Aki-Petteri Berg, as expected.

Berard, a smooth-skating defenseman with great offensive skills, had 20 goals and 55 assists last season with the Detroit Jr. Red Wings of the Ontario Hockey League.

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TOURIST! Lovely, furnished apartment near Dizengoff, sea, air-conditioning, immediate. ☎ 03-6991157.

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HABITAT, 02-611222, REHAVIA — ME-GIDDO, 4 luxurious rooms, carpets, closets, air conditioning, elevator, covered parking, \$475,000. Exclusive to SHIRAN.

GIVAT HAMIVTAR, villa, view, spacious, basement dining room. Exclusive Pearl Stokrich Realty ☎ 02-655532.

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### SERVICES

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### TEL AVIV

#### DWELLINGS

#### RENTALS

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2 ROOMS, seaview, luxurious, short-term. "Givshi" ☎ 03-544431

RAMAT AVIV GIMMEL, luxurious, 3/4/5 room apartments, air conditioned, "Yael REALTOR" (Malden) ☎ 03-6428233

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### SALES

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FAMILY LOOKING FOR A girl to live in for housekeeping + help with 3 children. ☎ 050-319931; 03-5340073.

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#### DWELLINGS

#### RENTALS

RAMAT GAN, two-family cottage, immediate, long-term, \$1500. ☎ 03-643243 (eve s).

### SALES

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# Settlements launch campaign to attract residents

DESPITE the pending redeployment of IDF troops in Judea and Samaria, or perhaps because of it, a number of settlements have recently embarked on a campaign to attract new residents.

Psagot, located a wadi away from Al-Bireh/Ramallah, which is slated to be the capital of the Palestinian Authority once it is elected, distributed leaflets recently calling upon the "young in age or spirit" to join the settlement located "15 minutes from Jerusalem."

"If you are national-religious,

young in age or spirit, and want to take part in a national enterprise and be a part of a cultured, successful community, Psagot has something to offer you," the leaflets read.

Aharon Gutman, secretary of the settlement, said that by the end of the summer an additional 15 families are expected to move into the community, which now numbers about 150 families.

Currently Psagot residents drive through Al-Bireh side streets to reach their homes, but this will no longer be the case

with the completion of a bypass road leading to Kochav Ya'acov and the Alon Road, Gutman said.

Gutman said he is receiving inquiries from those looking into the settlement for purely ideological reasons, as well as those interested because of the relatively cheap housing there.

Another settlement that has embarked on a similar campaign is Revava, just east of Bidia and

Karawat Bani Hasan, and a few kilometers west of Ariel in Samaria.

Offer Ashwal, in charge of Revava's campaign, said the settlement of 35 families took in four new families in June.

"We are getting numerous inquiries," Ashwal said, "and if the people are not suited for us, we recommend them to other settlements."

He said the new families live in mobile homes in the settlement

and have come "to show the government that we are continuing to build."

Revava is being advertised by a jingle on Arutz 7.

"A young, religious community is growing near Gush Dan and close to Ariel," goes the jingle. "Fulfill a dream now in Revava, a green, flowering community in our beloved land."

Emanuel, the haredi settlement located just north of Revava, is also about to start a campaign to sell 50 new apartments in the settlement, said a local council official.

He did not want to be identified.

The official said that there have been dozens of inquiries even before the campaign was formally launched.

He said that those inquiring are interested for a mix of ideological and economic reasons.

Three-room apartments will be sold for \$30,000 each, more than \$100,000 less than a comparable apartment in Bnei Brak, where many of the settlement's 4,000 families originated.

HERB KEINON

## Third Way MKs vow to reinforce Golan Law

DAVID RUDGE

LABOR MKs Avigdor Kahalani and Emanuel Zissman yesterday reiterated their intention to vote for any proposed bills that would reinforce the Golan Law - even if it meant supporting a no-confidence motion in the government.

Nevertheless, Kahalani expressed the hope that the Labor Party Knesset faction would not turn the issue into a no-confidence vote and would still allow him to put forward his proposed bill to reinforce the Golan Law.

The MKs spoke during an open meeting of the council of The Third Way movement, which was held in Katzrin in the Golan Heights.

Third Way officials said they hope Kahalani would be allowed to put forward his motion on July 26, before the Knesset's summer recess. Movement founder and veteran

Labor party member Yehuda Harel maintained that as many as a third of Labor's MKs were opposed to a complete withdrawal from the Golan, and he urged them to make their voices heard.

Zissman told reporters that he would leave the Labor Party even before the 1996 Knesset elections if it continued to try and implement its present policies.

Repeated calls were made by participants at the meeting for new elections to be held and for The Third Way to quickly become a political party.

Third Way Movement leaders plan to unveil their proposals for peace with Syria and for permanent arrangements with the Palestinians. The movement intends to have another meeting in Judea or Samaria in the next few weeks.

## Weizman: Assad should meet Rabin

BATSHEVA TSUR

IF Syria is interested in pushing forward peace negotiations with Israel, President Hafez Assad will have to change his modus operandi, President Ezer Weizman said yesterday.

Assad must meet with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Weizman reiterated. "If [the Syrian president] feels this is not respectable enough and prefers to sit drinking coffee and waiting for everyone to come pay respects to him, at a certain stage people will stop coming."

Weizman was speaking at the village of Uzar during a condolence

visit to the family of IDF tracker Sumhi Ahmed Abu-Hamed, who was killed in action last week in Lebanon. His remarks were broadcast over Israel Radio.

Weizman praised the fighting spirit of the Beduin trackers, and noted that they were in the front line in the war in southern Lebanon.

Later both the president and members of the Abu-Hamed family went to Ramat Gan to pay condolences to the family of Yaniv Sasson, who was killed in the same incident.

## Syria: Warning stations infringe on sovereignty

CAIRO (Renter) - Syria rejects the idea of Israeli early-warning stations in its territory and also has reservations about aerial surveillance, Information Minister Mohammad Salman said in an interview published yesterday.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said on Friday that IDF troops must man early-warning stations in the Golan Heights even after it is returned to Syria.

Salman, in the interview with the Egyptian opposition daily *al-Wafd*, did not bring up the question of IDF troops but said the stations themselves were unacceptable.

"Israeli warning stations on Syrian territory mean this territory would seem not to be under Syrian sovereignty, in other words they would infringe Syrian sovereignty and Syria cannot accept any infringement of its sovereignty," he said.

The stations would be provocative rather than reassuring, and a

better guarantee of peace would be to have guarantor powers such as the sponsor of the Middle East peace process - the United States, he added.

Asked about the alternative option of aerial surveillance of Syrian territory, he said: "These are the methods Israel has always adopted in the past and by which it claims that the Arab side is to blame for the tension and wars in the region."

After talks in Washington between the Syrian and Israeli chiefs of staff last month, Israeli officials said the two sides were agreed in principle that early warning systems and demilitarized and limited deployment zones would be needed.

An official in Washington said Syria was ready to accept early warning from the air. But, asked about the Israeli demand for ground stations, the official said: "They [the Syrians] don't like them."

## Segev wins court battle to remain chairman of Yi'ud

ENERGY Minister Gonen Segev will remain the chairman of the Yi'ud party and of its secretariat until the party's central committee meets to vote for new officers, which must take place within 60 days, according to a ruling by the Tel Aviv District Court.

The court thus voided decisions made in meetings in May of the party secretariat - consisting of MKs Alex Goldfarb and Esther Salmonitz - at which Segev was not present.

During these meetings, changes were made in the party's charter, Segev was removed from his chairmanship posts, a new bank account was opened on which Segev did not have signatory rights and the next general party meeting was postponed to an unknown date.

Segev had demanded that the status quo be preserved in the party and that no changes be made in its institutions or finances. (Hina)



Border policemen patrol in front of Orient House yesterday. Behind them is the trailer the city has ordered removed. (Brian Hendler)

## Orient House ordered to move unlicensed trailer

IN its latest move against Orient House, the Jerusalem Municipality yesterday ordered an unlicensed trailer on the grounds to be removed or it would be demolished within 30 days.

Building inspectors delivered a written warning to Orient House, the PLO's Jerusalem headquarters,

saying the trailer would have to be removed, a city spokeswoman said.

Izchak Budeiri, an Orient House spokesman, said the trailer was being used by construction workers renovating the building. "We sent the municipality a letter saying we are ready to remove

the trailer once we finish our renovations," Budeiri said.

Last month, the city council voted to take legal action against Orient House unless its owners applied to the city to have the building rezoned for office use. It is currently zoned as a hotel.

Such an application would im-

ply that PLO officials recognized Israeli sovereignty in the city, Omer said at the time.

The deadline for seeking the rezoning expires Friday. The attorney for Orient House, Jonathan Kuttab, could not be reached for comment on whether he would file the application. (AP)

## Man held for rape

A Ramat Gan man, 60, was remanded yesterday by the Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court on suspicion of raping an 11-year-old. Police said the girl complained she was repeatedly raped. (Hina)

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### One dead, 7 injured on roads

A female soldier was killed and two people were injured - one seriously - in an accident near Lod yesterday.

The accident occurred when a car veered into oncoming traffic, hitting a truck. The car driver, a 22-year-old Rosh Ha'ayin man, was severely injured and his passenger, a soldier from Tel Aviv, was killed. The truck driver suffered light injuries.

A motorcyclist was lightly hurt in a hit-and-run accident early yesterday morning on Tel Aviv's Ben-Yehuda Street.

Near Caesarea, three policemen and another man were injured on an exit ramp on the Coastal Road when the man stopped suddenly because of an obstacle on the road, and was hit from behind by the police car.

### Fire victims seek appliances

A campaign to collect electrical goods for families who lost their homes in the Jerusalem Corridor forest fire has begun. Yad Sarah is looking for refrigerators, washing machines, ovens, gas cookers and other appliances.

Call (02)-244242 and leave your name, number and the type of appliance you want to donate. Yad Sarah will pick it up and bring it directly to Moshav Shoshon.

Meanwhile, British Jewry has responded to an appeal by Jewish Agency Chairman Avraham Burg to help residents whose homes were lost. The Joint Israel Appeal of the UK has raised \$100,000 for this purpose, the agency announced. Judy Siegel

### Peace Now to file complaint

Peace Now activist Janet Aviad said she will file a complaint with police against former Kach activist Naom Federman, whom she said led a group of settlers who threw eggs and sprayed water at a Peace Now group that visited Hebron yesterday.

According to Aviad, the group was walking in front of Beit Hadassah when Federman and a number of children of the settlement sprayed water at them from a balcony. Aviad said they also pursued the group to their bus, and threw eggs at them. Herb Keinon

### Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the nine of spades, nine of hearts, seven of diamonds, and 10 of clubs. Helen Kaye

### ACRI, Vanunu part ways

The Association for Civil Rights in Israel (ACRI) will no longer represent Mordechai Vanunu in legal proceedings, at Vanunu's own request.

ACRI was representing Vanunu in a proceeding in the Beersheba District Court only last week, but "legal differences of opinion" arose between them over the weekend, the association said. Vanunu is currently in jail for revealing information about Israel's nuclear capabilities. Evelyn Gordon

### New consumer chief picked

The Israel Consumer Council's board of directors has unanimously elected Zvi Ramot as council chairman, a post which has not been filled for a year.

Ramot, who holds a number of other public and commercial posts, was the preferred candidate of Industry and Trade Minister Micha Harish. The council gets its budget from the ministry, and Harish has announced an increase in its allocation this year, with a promise of even more money next year. Martha Meisels

### Cellcom to resume charges

Starting July 16, Cellcom will again charge for air time at the rate of 8.5 agorot plus VAT per minute.

The cellular-phone company, which began service here last November, has been bedeviled by technical problems, including defective programming of the chips in the Motorola telephones it sold subscribers.

On April 27, the company stopped charging for air time (the per-minute fee covering time calls are being made) and halted sales of phones. It has since completed a massive chip-correction campaign in the three largest cities, encompassing tens of thousands of cellular phones. Judy Siegel

### Channel 2 still ahead in ratings

Channel 2 has moved clearly ahead in the TV share stakes, according to a Teleset poll. In January 1994 the overall viewing gap between the two channels was only 4 percent, but as of June 30 Channel 2 had moved ahead of Channel 1 by 25%. In prime time, Channel 2 grabbed a whopping 53% in February versus 21% on Channel 1, for a 32% difference. By the end of June this gap had narrowed to 23% with 46% and 23% respectively. Helen Kaye

## Netanyahu: 'Labor risks security of citizenry'

SARAH HONIG

LIKUD chairman Benjamin Netanyahu yesterday accused the government of "cynically risking the security of Israel's citizens only to boost its 1996 electoral prospects and damn the consequences later."

Addressing his party's executive bureau last night, Netanyahu charged that "never in the annals of this country has there been a government that so knowingly imperiled its citizens to satisfy its lust for power. The aim is not to win a durable workable peace but to quickly man-

ufacture short term arrangements that will tide the government over till the 1996 elections and after that the flood... The bloodshed that will follow matters little - the main objective is to survive the elections."

The bureau decided to initiate a protest campaign in a bid to put the government under the pressure of public opinion.

"All actions will be strictly within the law and true to the tradition of democracy to which we are committed," the bureau said in a statement.

## BARAK

(Continued from Page 1)

it," he said.

A statement issued by the Prime Minister's Office yesterday charged that Yediot wrote a "lie" yesterday when it claimed that the premier urged Barak to return early from his trip to China so as to answer charges put forward in the paper's investigation.

The Prime Minister's Office also denied that Rabin ever said that one must wait to see how to handle the Yediot investigation.

Emerging from yesterday's cabinet meeting, Environment Minister Yossi Sarid called on Barak to publicly rebut the charges. "It is a bad story," he told reporters. "I would call on Ehud Barak to do all he can to refute the charges. He is a private citizen now, and so he does not need the IDF Spokesman to speak on his behalf."

Other ministers rallied to Barak's defense. Agriculture Minister Ya'acov Tsuri indicated that he believes there was a political plot to discredit Barak just before he joins the government in the next few weeks. "I am not naive," Tsuri said.

The most powerful defense of Barak came not from his own Laborite colleagues but from Likud MK Ze'ev Begin, who ar-

gued that "Barak is the victim of malicious character assassination. This is a premeditated attempt to depict him as a coward who abandons wounded soldiers. This is the worst sort of charge which can be leveled. Barak did not buy his rank at the commissary and he did not win his decorations at a computer keyboard."

Begin noted that he "barely knows Barak and he is my political foe, but the timing of the publication of the allegations betrays the aims of their initiators."

Likud chairman Benjamin Netanyahu, however, said yesterday that he "cannot comment before there is an inquiry that would bring out the truth."

Senior Labor sources expressed great concern yesterday over the possibility that Barak's image has been irreversibly tarnished. However, the consensus last night was that this will not prevent Rabin from going ahead with Barak's appointment as interior minister, which is due to go into effect at the end of the month.

Labor Secretary-General Nissim Zivli argued yesterday that "It would take a concrete event or some sort of proof that Barak acted improperly for the appointment to be reconsidered."

The Jews of Lithuania Masha Greenbaum

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